

February 16, 2011

Greetings in Christ!

The warmth of the past few days has revealed surprises. We see the accumulation of garbage, animal waste, and the ravages of winter. But we also will soon see the first green grass, animals beginning the next cycle of life, and trees beginning to show life. God is speaking to us through His creation. Enjoy His message.

***Creation and Life issues in the news:* Hear AiG's Dr. Terry Mortenson in Morris, Minnesota, on February 27–28**

Dr. Terry Mortenson, an international creation speaker and scholar, will be in Morris, Minnesota, at Morris Area Elementary School and Hosanna Worship Center on Sunday and Monday, February 27–28, 2011. Admission will be free; this event is sponsored by Morris Evangelical Free Church.

Nature Watch: The moon is really bright again this month. It will be full this weekend. This past weekend we passed a milestone of sorts. You'll start to see it in the plants that are in your house, including those that have been dormant or growing very little. The sun has now hit a point on its journey back up where plants begin to respond to its warmth and angle. In the next week to ten days we'll likely see trees like silver maples begin to have buds that show. On these warm days this week, you may see a raccoon or skunk come out and do some scavenging. We should also begin to see more activity from grey squirrels as they begin their mating season. Horned Larks will be moving north any day now. They winter as far north as Iowa and southern Minnesota and are one of the first birds to



begin moving north.

Have you been hearing woodpeckers pounding away? They are starting to establish their territories in preparation for the breeding season. The Pileated woodpecker is one of the largest, being the size of a crow. They frequent bird feeders and are a fun bird to watch. You may see some of them on the ground looking each other over almost in a dance. They are a year round resident of our area.

Program Information: We have decided to postpone the annual Creation and Life Issues Convocation for this spring. We are exploring possibilities for this fall and will keep you informed of our progress as we set up the program.

We continue to be so blessed by the registrations we are getting for Summer 2011. We are approaching 500 campers, most of whom have signed up for events scheduled to be held at Christ Serve Ranch. Normally at this time of year we have about 150 registrations.

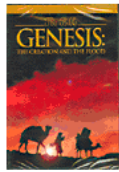
Bulletin insert: God's creation is coming back to life with the advent of Spring. In the next weeks watch for these things: Indoor plants will have a growth spurt. Raccoons and skunks will be coming out. Gray squirrels will begin to breed. Woodpeckers start to mark territory by tapping on wood. The sun exerts a new warmth. Parents, spend time talking with your children about God's creation and teach them the truth of God's power and grace.

From the Task force: The Task Force will be meeting on Monday, February 21. We want to thank our recent donors. God has blessed us with over \$2000 already this year.

God's Word: The LORD is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield and the horn of my **salvation**, my stronghold. Psalm 18:2

Prayer List: 1.) Praise God for the continued gifts that have been given. 2.) Lift up in prayer those who are struggling with the many illnesses that seem to be hitting so many. 3.) Give thanks for our Task Force and the work they are doing. 4.) Give thanks for the many people signing up for Summer 2011. 5.) Praise God for His grace.

Link of the week : <http://www.allaboutbirds.org/>



Resource of the week:

Genesis: the Creation and Flood: The story begins with the creation of Man and Woman, the sin committed by Adam and Eve, and the temptation by the snake, which led to their banishment from Paradise. The story continues with the first crime committed by mankind, Cain's murder of his brother, the condemnation of God, mankind's corruption and evil, and God's regret for having created earth. The choice of Noah, a just and upright man, to build the Ark, the flood and its clearing the way for a new mankind, the pact of the eternal Covenant between God and all living beings, are told through the clear and simple words of an old nomad shepherd. Running time approximately 93 minutes.

Question and Answer:

Question: Don't the thousands of layers of snow in glaciers prove that they have been around for hundreds of thousands of years?

Answer: If you want to believe that every layer represents a year, then yes. But the evidence shows that is not the case. Each layer may actually be a storm or the change of wind. More than one layer could be provided in a single day. Explorers discovered a plane lost in World War II that was under hundreds and hundreds of layers of snow, yet it could not have been there for more than 50 years.

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A program of Lutheran Island Camp, Henning, MN.