

July 27, 2011

Greetings in Christ!

God touches lives at camp. He uses the time spent studying His word, worship and devotions, and the examples set by young people who are dedicating their lives to serving Him. Through these things God works a special miracle in the lives of His children.

Creation and Life issues in the news: Bird or Dinosaur? Famous Fossil Not First Bird After All

One of the world's most famous fossil creatures, widely considered the earliest known bird, is getting a rude present on the 150th birthday of its discovery: A new analysis suggests it isn't a bird at all.

Chinese scientists are proposing a change to the evolutionary family tree that boots Archaeopteryx off the "bird" branch and onto a closely related branch of birdlike dinosaurs.

Archaeopteryx (ahr-kee-AHP'-teh-rihx) was a crow-sized creature that lived about 150 million years ago. It had wings and feathers, but also quite un-birdlike traits like teeth and a bony tail. Discovered in 1861 in [Germany](#), two years after [Charles Darwin](#) published "On the Origin of Species," it quickly became an icon for evolution and has remained popular since.

The Chinese scientists acknowledge they have only weak evidence to support their proposal, which hinges on including a newly recognized dinosaur.

Read more: <http://www.foxnews.com/scitech/2011/07/27/bird-or-dinosaur-famous-archaeopteryx-not-first-bird-after-all/#ixzz1TMX7TIYC>

Minnesota Abortion Rates Hit Record Low

After a decade on the decline, abortion rates could be at an all-time low in the state of Minnesota, but both sides are citing very different reasons.

A new report from the Minnesota Department of Health shows the number of women getting abortions in the state is on the decline.

"I'm pleased to see that women are choosing life," said Linda McGuire, the Education Coordinator for the Olmsted County Chapter of Minnesota Citizens Concerned for Life.

"It's definitely terrific news," said Tim Stanley, the Director of Public Affairs for Planned Parenthood of Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota.

Doctors performed 11,505 abortions on women in Minnesota in 2010, that's down slightly more than 7 percent from more than 12,000 abortions in 2009.

"It's trending in the right direction, but this is no time to rest on our laurels. We need to insure again that every woman and every man in this state knows what the reproductive health care options are," said Stanley.

"It's really quite good to inform women. As far as where they can go for more assistance, more grants, more education, more help," said McGuire.

To read more: <http://kaaltv.com/article/stories/S2217321.shtml?cat=10217>

Nature Watch: Our geese continue to grow. They are nearly as tall as the parents now. This week we spotted a group of young turkey polts following behind their hen. They were quite small. We continue to spot lots of fawns with their mothers. We are seeing some fabulous flower and vegetable gardens. Trees are doing wonderfully, including some beautiful apples, plums, and other fruits. Lake levels continue to be at much higher levels than normal. Some area lakes are starting to have some problems. Ponds and streams continue to be at very high levels especially for late July. We've spotted some Sand

Hill cranes again. These beautiful birds are among the largest in Minnesota. Our road kill watch in the last couple of weeks included an opossum, lots of raccoons, several deer, a turkey, and a couple of skunks.

Program Information: Watch for some additional events that we are scheduling for this fall. Included will be a Creation-Photography weekend and some special horse programs.

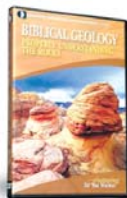
Bulletin insert: Do you have a middle school student in your life? Then you should encourage them to attend our Creation-Science for Middle School students coming up in September 16-17. Brian Young will be presenting to the students.

From the Task force: We've received yet another commitment for an LLC membership this past week. Praise God. The Friends of Creation-Science Limited Liability Company will be the actual owners of Christ Serve Ranch. It is made up of individuals, a foundation, a corporation, and several families along with Lutheran Island Camp Foundation, all of which have committed to purchasing \$30,000 membership units. Over time the camp will purchase those units from the LLC until ownership resides entirely in the camp. If you are interested in donating or investing, please feel free to give Bill a call a camp and he can help make the arrangements. The task force will be meeting next Monday, August 1.

God's Word: "Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us," Hebrews 12:1

Prayer List: 1.) Our thoughts and prayers are with two of our good friends at camp. Pastor Randy Maland was in a severe motorcycle accident and is being treated in the Twin Cities. DCE Gary Bach of New York Mills has been hospitalized in St. Cloud. 2.) We give thanks to God for using yet another family to help with the purchase of Christ Serve Ranch. 3.) Please remember Brian Young and his family as they travel to camp for another Young Scientist camp next week. 4.) Keep the Task Force in your prayers as they travel to camp. 5.) Ask God to raise up the last few donors and investors we need and to do so in the next few days so we can move forward.

Link of the week: <http://www.sixdaycreation.com/cms/>



Resource of the week: Using easy-to-understand illustrations and terms, geologist Tas Walker shows how the Genesis account of a worldwide Flood gives the best explanation for the rock layers that we see today. If you aren't convinced now, you will be after hearing this talk!

Question and Answer:

Question: How can we support the purchase of Christ Serve Ranch?

Answer: Prayers! Gifts! Investments! Volunteer!

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A program of Lutheran Island Camp, Henning, MN.