

June 29, 2011

Greetings in Christ!

Summer has arrived and it is grand! We have very lush conditions everywhere in the region and crops, though a little behind are looking good. God works His miracles in the lives of even the most humble of sparrows. He clothes birds with brilliant colors that we cannot match with all of our technology. And He perpetuates every living being in a miraculous way that even the most accomplished of scientists cannot replicate. Our God is an awesome God!

Creation and Life issues in the news: Peter Saunders: 20 Things You Might Not Know About Assisted Suicide in Europe

The *Sunday Times*, in line with its new editorial policy, ran a typically effusive article last weekend about last night's "documentary" in which we saw a British man, Peter Smedley, kill himself on screen by drinking poison at the Dignitas suicide facility near Zurich.

Earlier this year I suggested that the BBC was acting in the role of cheerleader for assisted suicide through its partisan coverage of this issue; and I blogged earlier about how this particular programme was further evidence of BBC bias and would fuel more suicides by way of the Werther effect.

But I was also interested to see Mr Pratchett's (brief) description in the *Sunday Times* about how the documentary came to be made in the first place. To read more follow this link:

<http://www.lutheransforlife.org/life-blog/peter-saunders-20-things-you-might-not-know-about-assisted-suicide-in-europe/>

Thick-Headed Dinosaur Was King of the Head Butt (editors note: wonder how he evolved? Which came first, the head or the head butt?)

A domed-head dinosaur may have been the king of the head butt, with a better skull than any modern noggin-knocker for protecting its brain during such attacks.

Scientists investigated a two-legged plant-eating dinosaur about the size of a German shepherd that lived some 72 million years ago, the pachycephalosaur *Stegoceras validum*. This herbivore possessed a bony dome on its skull, and there has been heated debate as to whether they used their heads to ram an opponent headlong, as bighorn sheep do, or to attack the opponent's flanks, as is the case with bison.

Fossilized remains are all that's left of the once mighty dinosaurs that dominated our planet. Here, the neatest recent finds.

A treasure trove of fossils was recently discovered in Snowmass, Colo., along with insects and flora of the period. An artist's reconstructions give a very realistic portrait of how the giant mammals that roamed North America 12,000 years ago may have appeared.

"Pachycephalosaur domes are weird structures not exactly like anything in modern animals," said researcher Eric Snively, a zoologist at Ohio University. "We wanted to test the controversial idea that the domes were good for head-butting."

Read more: <http://www.foxnews.com/scitech/2011/06/29/thick-headed-dinosaur-was-king-head-butt/#ixzz1QhPLDr5C>

Nature Watch: We've been watching some beautiful Baltimore orioles lately. Also, have seen some very nice Blue Birds. Hotter temps that are forecast for the next few days will really get things growing. Some second crop hay is being cut in southern parts of our region. Many of the flowers are a week or two behind. We're finally seeing some peonies around, nearly two weeks after we would have expected them. Many of the wildflowers are finally starting to come as well. Cottonwood trees are starting to throw off their "cotton". Seeds from Maple trees are sprouting if they found good soil conditions. We've been blessed to see lots of pelicans in area ponds and lakes. It's good to see such a healthy population. Our loon babies should be making there appearances soon. We've spotted a couple of lat hatches of ducks recently. Our road kill watch has included some youngsters lately. We've seen several very young skunks, a fox cub, and a very young deer. We've also been spotting some huge snapping turtles lumbering across roads. Why do they do that? To get to the other side of course.

Program Information: We still have another Young Scientist Camp coming up in August and there is still room for a few more kids. Brian Young talks about the pre-flood world, uses exciting experiments and projects, and provides lots of great information for youth 10-15 years of age.

Bulletin insert: Creation Safari camps at Lutheran Island Camp provide a great opportunity for youngsters to be exposed to scientific exploration without the filters of evolutionary science. There are three weeks this summer – two in July and one in August.

From the Task force: We've scheduled a very special event at Christ Serve Ranch. Brian Young will be sharing his thoughts and vision on programming and uses for the property. We'll be inviting donors, investors, and a few pastors and lay people who have expressed a special interest in our project. If you would like to come, please give us a call and we'll send you an invitation as well. This event will not be publicized except through invitation and this newsletter.

God's Word: Because you shove with flank and shoulder, **butting** all the weak sheep with your horns until you have driven them away, Ezekiel 34:21

Prayer List: 1.) Please remember to lift up the people of North Dakota, especially those in Minot and Bismarck, during this time of flooding. 2.) Please keep Brian and his presentation in your prayer. 3.) Praise God for the continued support we have received. 4.) Please lift up in your prayers a grant proposal that we've made to Thrivent that would greatly enhance our Horse Outreach Program. 5.) Thank God for being with our Young Scientist Camp this week. There have been a few bangs, "whooshs", and explosions.

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



Resource of the week: This new Bible is the first in English to be developed from the ground-up with notes that are distinctively Lutheran, [prepared by Lutheran contributors](#) from over twenty Lutheran church bodies. Current Lutheran scholarship, insights from the

Church Fathers, and rich devotional commentary provide meaningful perspective for both young and mature Christians.

Question and Answer:

Question: Is there an answer to the age-old question of which came first, the chicken or the egg?

Answer: The chickens were created on day 5. Eggs came later.

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A program of Lutheran Island Camp, Henning, MN.