

March 9, 2011

Greetings in Christ!

Today we begin the Lenten journey. It is a time of reflection on our sinful nature, a time of contemplation as we watch our Savior take those steps that will invariably lead to His death, a time of creation as we see our Father in heaven creating a new relationship with us, and a time of anticipation and great joy as we realize the love He has for us. He died for us!

Creation and Life issues in the news: *Humans on Verge of 6th Great Mass Extinction, Experts Say*

Are humans causing a mass extinction on the magnitude of the one that killed the dinosaurs?

The answer is yes, according to a new analysis - but we still have some time to stop it.

Mass extinctions include events in which 75 percent of the species on Earth disappear within a geologically short time period, usually on the order of a few hundred thousand to a couple million years. It's happened only [five times before](#) in the past 540 million years of multicellular life on Earth. (The last great extinction occurred 65 million years ago, when the dinosaurs were wiped out.) At current rates of extinction, the study found, Earth will enter its sixth mass extinction within the next 300 to 2,000 years.

Read more: <http://www.foxnews.com/scitech/2011/03/02/humans-verge-6th-great-mass-extinction-experts-say/#ixzz1G3z09NAd>

Nature Watch:

Bird activity is certainly increasing. In a two mile stretch we saw 18 pheasants. They were separated in three groups – 1 group of 4 males, 1 group of 6 females, and 1 group of 8 females. We are also seeing lots of crows.

Program Information: Teaching Your Family about Creation

This weekend event will help parents and children learn about the most up-to-date creation science and how to teach and live it. They will discover that much of the “evidence” of evolution is based on false information and unproven theories. This will be a great family opportunity to have the tools to respond to questions and challenges to our faith. Ages: Family EC

Dates: June 17-19

Cost: \$85 per person, children under 5 free, \$300 maximum per family.

Deposit: \$100

Bulletin insert: Lent is a time for us to reflect on God’s creative attribute. We know that He created the heavens and the earth. During this Lenten time, as you reflect on His word, as you sing hymns of contrition and of praise, as you meditate on the sermons you’ll hear, He will be creating a new heart in you.

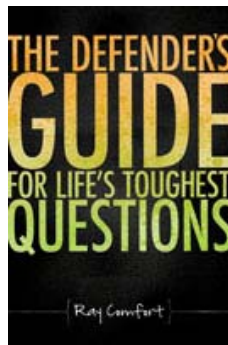
From the Task force: Pastors Sagissor and Domke recently did a presentation on Creation-Science and the Environmental Learning Center at Christ Serve Ranch. They did this in South Dakota where it was very well received. Several participants asked about how they could support the project financially. They hope to do more presentations in their region. We thank God for additional offers from people to volunteer at Christ Serve Ranch. Most recently we had a volunteer from Colorado and another from Wyoming. The one in Wyoming is hoping to bring a group of youth to our Young Scientist Camp.

God’s Word: ¹⁹ “For through the law I died to the law so that I might live for God. ²⁰ I have been crucified

with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. ²¹ I do not set aside the grace of God, for if righteousness could be gained through the law, Christ died for nothing!" Galatians 2:19-21.

Prayer List: 1.) Please remember the chairman of our Task Force as he considers a call to a different parish. 2.) Please keep all of our pastors in your prayers as they prepare their Lenten services and pray for us. 3.) Give thanks for several recent donations including a gift of \$105 toward Christ Serve Ranch from the youth of St. Johns ACT in Aitkin. 4.) Give thanks for several recent volunteers who have come forward from Wyoming, Colorado, and Washington State, offering their time and talents to the Creation-Science Environmental Learning Center at Christ Serve Ranch. 5.) Please keep the staff and Task Force in your prayers as we continue to take steps forward.

Link of the week: <http://dsa.nwcreation.net/>



Resource of the week: It's tough to be a believer in today's world — especially if you are a student in an academic system intent on destroying your faith. Bestselling author and television co-host, Ray Comfort, has collected some of the toughest questions people will face in defending their faith and offers sound biblical responses. Each issue is one that has been raised by genuine atheists. Don't be without these powerful facts when facing a world trying to twist and confuse biblical truth.

The Defender's Guide for Life's Toughest Questions discusses topics such as:

1. Humanity: Rights and Suffering
2. The Bible: Biblical and Theological Issues
3. Science: Scientific Thought and Evolution
4. Philosophy: Beliefs and Worldviews
5. Religion: God and Atheism

When an atheist wants an answer, will you have one?

Question and Answer:

Question: My 5 year old grandson loves dinosaurs and I've found some books about them, but they refer to an earth that is millions of years old. Should I give them to him?

Answer: Children at that age are learning that if it is in a book it must be true. Often the books you are referring too take theories and suppositions and turn them into facts. If the animal has sharp teeth they must have eaten meat, is an example of a supposition that is not based on fact. If you do get a book like that, read it with him and share what the Bible says or teach him the difference between theories and scientific facts that can be replicated and proven to be true. Check out Answers in Genesis. They have some excellent DVDs and books for children that use Bible passages and other facts to debunk some of the myths put forth by "science".

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A program of Lutheran Island Camp, Henning, MN.