

July 29, 2009

Greetings in Christ!

Have you looked in the mirror lately? You should because when you do you'll see a creation of God that is second to none. He created you in His image, He strengthens you daily through His Spirit, and He promises that the person staring back at you from that mirror has had all his sins washed away by the sacrifice of His Son. So next time you shave your face or brush your teeth or comb your hair or put on makeup take time to reflect on the reflection.

**Creation and Life issues in the news:** NEW YORK, NY (Catholic Online) - White House budget director Peter Orszag was asked yesterday whether "no taxpayer money will go to pay for abortions" under proposed health care legislation. "I'm not prepared to say explicitly that right now," he said.

Catholic League president Bill Donohue picked up on that remark:

"There was no reason for Orszag to sound tentative—everyone who has been following this issue knows that President Barack Obama has been very explicit about his support for abortion, as well as his desire to make the public foot the bill. To read more: <http://www.catholic.org/politics/story.php?id=34117>

**Nature Watch:** The cooler than normal summer has extended the wildflower season. There is a real abundance of color in the fields, along road ditches, and on prairie land. The baby's breath plants this year are spectacular. Cattails have filled out and are beautiful. Along with the wildflowers, we've also seen an abundance of noxious weeds, most obvious are the Canadian and bull thistle, but there are plenty of others. Our flock of geese continues to bask in the sun. There are about 30 of them that roam around eating grasses both on dry land and in the water. Corn is nearly all tasseled out now, potatoes are in full blossom, small grains are ripening rapidly, and beaver are starting to get more active. Days are starting to get shorter and within the next week or so, it will become more noticeable as the sun changes its trajectory.

**Program Information:** Young Scientist camps will be part of a new emphasis to encourage groups to come to Lutheran Island Camp and the Creation-Science Environmental Learning Center. If you would like to find out more information, give us a call. We'll help you organize your group, help with some fundraising ideas, and perhaps help with transportation. Be watching for information on our new C-SELIC camps on photography.

**From the Task Force:** We look forward to sharing the draft version of the mission and vision of the task force. The next meeting of the Task Force is in September.

**God's Word:** **So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. Genesis 1:27**

Prayer List: 1.) Please thank God for the continued recovery of Task Force member Gary Schroeder; 2.) Please include our nation in your prayers, especially as the health care reforms are being considered and the impact those reforms may have on the elderly and unborn children; 3.) Please keep the staff and task force in your prayers as they face the trials and tribulations that the devil is throwing at us in our personal and professional lives. Plead with God to continue to strengthen us; 4.) Pray for the miracles that we will need to continue to move forward; 5.) Give thanks to God for the wisdom and faithfulness that has been demonstrated through our task force Vision Committee.

**Link of the week:** [www.fixed-point.org](http://www.fixed-point.org). This organization is committed to publicly defending Christianity through education, special events the development of innovative resources.

**Resource of the week:** The God Delusion Debate. This DVD is available from the Fixed Point Foundation. It is the debate between Richard Dawkins and John Lennox on the existence of God.

Question and Answer:

Question: Have you ever wondered?

Answer: Yes, we wonder every day. Wonderment is one of the gifts God has give us, along with faith, and hope, and love. Wondering, like any gift from God, can be abused. When that happens, we call it doubt. Wonder is exciting, doubt is debilitating. Wonder is expansive, doubt is contracting. Wonder is looking at possibilities and seeing hope, doubt is looking at challenges and wanting to quit. Praise God for the wondering of children of all ages, for it is through that wondering that we grow, learn, and desire to share.

Christ Serve Ranch/Creation-Science Environmental Learning Center  
45011 230<sup>th</sup> St  
Henning, MN 56551  
[info@christserveranch.org](mailto:info@christserveranch.org)  
[www.christserveranch.org](http://www.christserveranch.org)

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