

June 24, 2009

Greetings in Christ!

One of the great joys of being a Christian is the opportunity that we have to share Christ with those who may be suffering. Recently a team of 5 people from Lutheran Island Camp traveled to Cedar Rapids, IA to share Christ with children who had lost homes, pets, possessions, their churches and schools. Many of these kids were wondering where a loving God could be with all of the suffering they were enduring. Tears and smiles, hugs and songs, sharing and caring become the tools that we can use to share the Gospel and soon these youngsters are eagerly seeking Jesus through scripture and worship. Floods and calamities are a consequence of the first Adam's sin. Peace and comfort are the result of the final Adam's sacrifice on the cross and His resurrection.

Creation and Life issues in the news: June 16, 2009 — What kid hasn't played with maple seeds to watch them spin in the air like helicopters? Scientists watch them, too. A team from the Netherlands and California found out how they stay in the air for so long without engines to drive them. One would think in an era of advanced aeronautical engineering the physics would all be worked out, but the abstract explains that the seeds know more than the engineers do:

As they descend, the autorotating seeds of maples and some other trees generate **unexpectedly high lift**, but **how they attain this elevated performance is unknown**. To elucidate the mechanisms responsible, we measured the three-dimensional flow around dynamically scaled models of maple and hornbeam seeds. Our results indicate that these seeds **attain high lift by generating a stable leading-edge vortex (LEV)** as they descend. The compact LEV, which we **verified on real specimens**, allows maple seeds to **remain in the air more effectively** than do a variety of nonautorotating seeds.

Nature Watch: Many of us think of June 21st as the longest day while the length of greatest sunshine actually extends from about the 16th to the 24th. After today, the length of sunshine in our latitude begins to decrease until December 22. We have been seeing some mammoth turtles laying eggs in our area. Butterflies are making for some wonderful viewing near and in gardens; army worms have been making their presence known; drought conditions have eased up considerably with rains in excess of 7 inches in the last two weeks; fish spawning has really peaked with bass and panfish getting close to finish. Fishing has been excellent in some of the area lakes.

Program Information: This year's Young Scientist camps were great. We want to thank volunteers Dr. Ross Olson and science teacher Dave Mueller for their great help and support. Brian Young did an excellent job of providing quality learning experiences about the science behind God's six-day creation. Next year's camps will be scheduled about the third and fourth weeks of June.

We still have openings for our two Creation Safari camps. These are great weeks for the younger kids. They'll have fun exploring, collecting, observing, and gathering.

From the Task Force: We want to thank a number of donors who have contributed to our Christ Serve Ranch and Creation-Science funds in the last couple of weeks. We've received about \$2000 from some who provide ongoing support as well as a couple of new donors. The Task Forces Vision and Program committee has completed a first draft of its work and will have it reviewed by the time of our next meeting in July.

God's Word: With my great power and outstretched arm I made the earth and its people and the animals that are on it, and I give it to anyone I please. Jeremiah 27:5

Prayer List: 1.) Pray a prayer of thanksgiving for the wonderful Creation-Science Environmental Learning Center programs we've had a camp over the last two weeks; 2.) Please remember Task Force member Wayne Hilchen in your prayers upon the death of his brother this week; 3.) Pray fervently that donors and investors would step forward to help with the purchase of Christ Serve Ranch; 4.) Pray for the continued strength necessary to continue the challenging efforts surrounding our projects. We continue to see the devil battling strongly against those most involved.

Link of the week: These two links were shared by Task Force member, Rev. Dan Domke of Huron, S.D. They relate to global warming: WWW.globalwarmingheartland.org and or www.joannenova.come.au

Resource of the week: The 10 Things You Should Know About the Creation vs Evolution Debate. By Ron Rhodes published by Harvest House Publishing.

Question and Answer:

Question: What is Creation-Science?

Answer: There are many definitions, but the one we like here is "the study of how God manifests Himself through us and the universe that surrounds us."

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