

November 18, 2009

Greetings in Christ!

The wonderful fall weather continues. God is certainly blessing us with beautiful fall days. We are reminded of how God blesses us through so many small things. The crisp fall air, a deer bounding across the lawn, a late fall flock of birds heading south, a single leaf hanging stubbornly on a tree, a woodpecker tapping, a grouse thumping, a crow cawing. Take a walk one day and listen and look to see wonderful things.

Creation and Life issues in the news: Wow! What a week for creation and life issues in the news. First and foremost has been our own news coverage of the creation-science programs we are offering and the establishment of our Creation-Science Environmental Learning center. The article which first appeared in the Fargo forum and on their website has been picked up by many newspapers, first throughout Minnesota, then around the country. It has also been linked to by hundreds of websites. If you do a Google search on “creation science Lutheran camp” you’ll get a pretty good sense of what is out there.

Artificial life will be created within four months, a controversial scientist has predicted. Craig Venter, who led a private project to sequence the human genome, told *The Times* that his team had cleared a critical hurdle to creating man-made organisms in a laboratory.

“Assuming we don’t make any errors, I think it should work and we should have the first synthetic species by the end of the year,” he said. To read more, follow this link:

<http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/science/article6804599.ece>

Nature Watch: Deer harvest was successful for many in the area. This despite abnormally warm weather both weekends. There are still one or two loons that are in the area. These are youngsters that will soon follow the adults who left a month or more ago. God created them in such a way that they will know exactly how and where to travel. Some migratory birds have a very minute trace of iron in their brain that seems to provide a magnetic compass that directs them to the same place that their parents have gone to. Squirrels are still active but not nearly as much as a month ago. We haven’t seen chipmunks in a while. Turtles have headed to the bottom of the lakes and ponds as have frogs and other amphibians. Gophers have pretty much stopped their activity as well. Migrating birds have been flying by in great numbers. There are also a number of local birds that will stay around through the winter. The late harvest of corn and beans have provided a plenty of food for lots of wildlife. Concern continues to grow that recent rains have so saturated the soils in our area that we are being set up for spring flooding again in 2010.

Program Information: We are pleased to announce that our second annual Creation and Life Issues Convocation will be held on April 18, 2010. It will again be held in the Fargo Moorhead area. Answers in Genesis speaker Dr. David Menton will be our featured speaker. More details will be forthcoming. Dr. Menton will also be the featured speaker for the Women’s Retreat held at Lutheran Island camp that same weekend.

From the Task Force: Do you know that members of our Task Force include several people who have degrees in science? It includes pastors, teachers, moms and dads, students, and people who have dedicated their lives to science.

God's Word: ¹³Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be men of courage; be strong. ¹⁴Do everything in love. 1 Corinthians 16: 13-14

Prayer List: 1.) Please continue to remember staff member Mary Swyter in your prayers. Mary has returned home after surgery on her ankles. 2.) Please pray for insight and wisdom as we continue to make plans for Summer 2010.3.) Give thanks for being able to give thanks. 4.) Lift up those who demonstrated anger and vitriol directed at our programs following the recent articles. 5.) Pray that God would touch the lives of many people in a positive way as people share their faith through comments, discussions, and Bible studies.

Link of the week: <http://www.creationmoments.net/> This site was shared by one of our readers.

Resource of the week: **Already Gone** we want to highlight this excellent book again. It's written by Ken Ham and Britt Beemer and is available from Master Books and Answers in Genesis.

Question and Answer:

Question: How can I help get the Creation-Science Environmental Center at Christ Serve Ranch off the ground?

Answer: Pray! Stay! Okay! **Pray** continuously for the efforts we are working on. **Stay** by signing up for Creation-Science programs this winter, spring and next summer. **Okay** the opportunities to financially support we offer, especially by becoming a part of the LLC.

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