

September 2, 2009

Greetings in Christ!

It is hard to believe that September has already arrived and with it noticeable changes in weather, daylight, and surroundings. We pray that you have the time to reflect on God's creation this fall and to see the beauty that He has given us through nature.

Creation and Life issues in the news: In July, President Barack Obama announced his intention to appoint Dr. Francis Collins to lead the prestigious National Institutes of Health (NIH),¹ which funds over \$30 billion in scientific research aimed at preventing disease and improving health. A respected physician, researcher, and administrator, Dr. Collins previously led the vital work of the Human Genome Project.

He is also very open about his Christian faith, which makes him a man of great influence among other Christians who are eager to see more Christian leaders in Washington. But just what kind of influence will Dr. Collins have for the Kingdom? And how does he integrate his Christian beliefs with science? To read more follow this link:

<http://www.icr.org/article/4821/>

Nature Watch: The last two weeks have provided beautiful weather, but we are also starting to see change as leaves start to drop, apples ripen, weeds go to seed, animals start to feverishly gather food or build up fat reserves, and farmers begin to harvest their bounty. Grain harvest continues to be 2-3 weeks late and there continues to be concern about other crops maturing. Some birds have started to head south, especially some of the song birds. While our area will miss those birds, we'll soon be enjoying other birds that spend their summer far to the north. These include gulls, certain raptors, ducks, and geese. Hunters are also beginning their harvest with bear hunters already starting and bow hunters coming soon.

Program Information: We continue to request your input on program ideas for the coming year. We are working on the schedules for 2010 and beyond and welcome your thoughts and ideas about events, speakers, and programs.

From the Task Force: We invite you to invite others to our upcoming Open House to be held at the property we hope to purchase, Christ Serve Ranch. We've attached a poster that we hope you will share. It would be helpful, but not necessary to give us a call to let us know that you will be joining us. We'll have wagon rides, tours, food and beverages, gift certificates, resources and displays, and door prizes for all.

God's Word: ²⁴"The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples built by hands. ²⁵And he is not served by human hands, as if he needed anything, because he himself gives all men life and breath and everything else. ²⁶From one man he made every nation of men, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he determined the times set for them and the exact places where they should live. ²⁷God did this so that men would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from each one of us."
Acts 17: 24-27

Prayer List: 1.) Once again we ask you to remember in your prayers the children and young adults who are heading back to camp. 2.) Pray for good attendance, good weather for our Open House and also that people in attendance will be moved to support our project. 3.) Please remember our staff as we transition to our retreat season and all of the time spent planning for the next year. 4.) Please remember in your prayers are efforts to establish an investment group to purchase Christ Serve Ranch. 5.) Please continue to pray for staff, volunteers, speakers, representatives, and donors who are working hard to move forward with the Creation-Science Environmental Learning Center.

Link of the week: <http://www.creationevidence.org> Those of you heading south for the winter, might want to check this site out.

Resource of the week: In the Beginning: Developing Human Life. This is a booklet with 8 lessons concerning such topics as stem cell research and other life issues.

Question and Answer:

Question: Were there dinosaurs?

Answer: Yes, there is clear evidence that dinosaurs existed and there is also much evidence they existed at the same time as man. Our disagreement is with the concept that these dinosaurs existed millions of years ago. This concept is usually promoted as a result of circular reasoning. For example – these bones were found in soils that are 4 million years old. How do you know how old the soils are? Because we found bones that are 4 million years old in the soil. Modern man first discovered evidence of dinosaurs in 1825 with the discovery of a dinosaur tooth, yet there are manmade images of dinosaurs that go back thousands of years.

Christ Serve Ranch/Creation-Science Environmental Learning Center
45011 230th St
Henning, MN 56551
info@christserveranch.org
www.christserveranch.org

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