



The Good Shepherd News

2073 Garden Street — Titusville, Florida 32796 [321-267-4323]

Rev. Bruce Alberts, Pastor

Anne Dobbins, Early Learning Center Director

Website: titusvillelutherans.org

e-mail: office@titusvillelutherans.org

APRIL 2018

A Word from the Pastor

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

If Good Shepherd were to disappear from Titusville tomorrow, would anybody miss us? Better yet, if all Christian churches were to disappear tomorrow, would Titusville be any the poorer? The answer is a resounding yes!

Churches bring one thing to the community, indeed the whole world, that you simply cannot get anywhere else. Is it a food pantry? No. Is it quality education? Not that either. Is it something to do on a Sunday morning? There are plenty of fun things you can do on a Sunday morning. There is one thing you will get nowhere else: The forgiveness of sins.

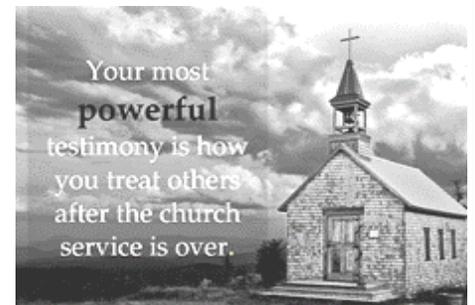
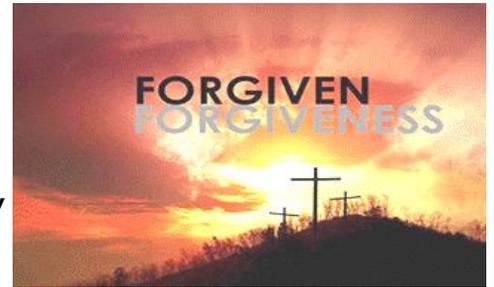
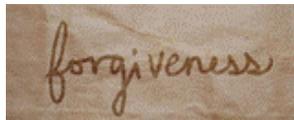
In John 20:23 Jesus says to his disciples "If you forgive anyone's sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven." (NIV) What that means is that only God's people can declare the forgiveness of sins. No other human beings on the planet are authorized to do so!

So... no churches no declaration of forgiveness. Titusville would be at a significant loss. This is why the church is so important. This is why we have the mandate to make disciples of all nations. God wants to reconcile people to himself. He does that through us.

Whatever ministry activities we get into, let's remember this is the important thing. Everything we do should lead back to this all important task. It's what people need the most.

God's Blessings!

Pastor Bruce



May Newsletter articles will be due no later than April 17, 2018. Please email your article to office@titusvillelutherans.org or leave it in the church office by Tuesday, April 17. Thank you to all who contribute every month.



Helpful Health Hints By The Congregation Nurse

Everyone is at risk for a fall. They can occur in any age group, at any time, and most any place. They can be just a minor injury with a few bumps or can cause serious problems and can lead to loss of independence.

Falls are the leading cause of injury deaths and hospital admissions, for trauma, in those 65 years and older.

Falls break bones and tear tendons. More than 40% of people with hip fractures do not return home and are not able to live independently again, and 25% of those who fall each year will die.

Since most falls are preventable there are many ways to reduce your risk.

- Wear safe shoes, sturdy with non-skid soles.
- Wear your glasses and hearing aids
- Use a cane or walker, especially if you feel unsteady
- Eat or drink something every 3-4 hours
- Stay active, ask your doctor about exercise programs
- Do not rush!
- Pay attention to uneven surfaces when walking
- Take medication as prescribed.



Over half of falls occur at home, many in the bathroom. There are steps you can take to make your home safer.

- Keep your home well lit, using nightlights in bedroom and bathroom.
- Remove throw rugs that can slip, make sure carpet edges are tacked down.
- Keep pathways clear of cords and clutter.
- Always use a hand rail for support on stairs,
- Do not use stools or step ladders.
- Consider grab bars in the tub or shower and non-skid strips in tub.
- When getting out of bed sit on the edge for a few minutes before standing up.



“Lifeline”, or other home monitoring devices can save your life. They are essential for anyone living alone. One secret to this type of equipment is that you have to wear it. My mother kept hers on the dresser and when she fell in the kitchen she laid on the floor for over 2 hours until I came by to see her and found her.

Falls happen quickly but the effects they have on our lives can last a long time. I hope none of you will experience a serious fall.

Barbara
(adapted from patient education department
moffitt cancer center)



FROM YOUR HISTORIAN



Children's Church went on a field trip on March 16, to Wycliffe to see how they translate the Bible. Suzanne spoke so beautifully about the trip that I will let her elegantly write this month's article. Thank you Suzanne!



Your Historian.

We had 9 folks (3 adults & 6 kids) venture off to CRU (formerly Campus Crusade for Christ) and Wycliffe Bible Translators in Orlando. We went to CRU first to learn more about the Jesus Film, which was initially created 1979. This film which is a telling of the Gospel of Luke is used for the express purpose of helping people all over the world learn about Jesus. To do this it is translated in to other languages from the original English. To date it has been translated in to 1600 languages.....becoming the most translated film in history.

To help us understand just what it takes to make a very nice presentation, Sophia was chosen from the crowd to give us the chance to see how the work of dubbing the film might look. She read the lines of Mary Magdalene after she greets Jesus at the tomb on Easter morning.

We learned about some of the ways this film is used, including some of the covert ways missionaries are able to use it in countries where the gospel is restricted. We also had the opportunity to watch the profound impact of the film on people as they had the chance to not only become acquainted with the story of Jesus, but to encounter it for the first time and in their own language.

Then it was off to Wycliffe where we very much enjoyed the Discovery Center. We especially enjoyed a computer program that gave us the ability to see what our names would look like in several different languages. We also learned that by 2025, Wycliffe hopes to have started a translation of the Bible of every remaining language left that has not yet translated.....which is more than 1,000....perhaps 1,800. I cannot quite recall.

One thing that was striking to a few of our group was the number of people whose identities were concealed because they are working in places where doing the work of translating the Bible is dangerous for them personally, including being considered an enemy of the state. Also learning that there are people whose work in this field caused them, and sometimes, their family members to be killed. This caused some of us to reflect on what an incredible thing the Bible really is.

Now, we did enjoy a rather nice picnic lunch on the grounds of Wycliffe. They have a stunningly beautiful facility. I personally had to get a little giddy, just because of the number of times I have seen that facility featured on CBN news.



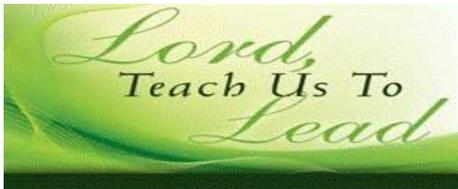
Suzanne Alberts



There were a few less children than expected but what a lot of fun was had! Thank you everyone for sorting, bagging, filling and hiding eggs!

A BIG THANK YOU

So many thanks go out to ALL the people involved in making the Easter Sunrise Service and Breakfast a success! From Joe & Helen Cooking, Betty and all the ladies decorating Shepherd's Hall, Evelyn playing the organ, Bill, Paul, Rickey setting up the PA system, and everybody whose name I did not mention for their time and talent, donations, and clean up help. We couldn't do it without your participation! Also all the guys getting the chairs pulled out and set up for sunrise service. Thank You!



April 2018

From the Elder's Corner:

At a former congregation, the church secretary told me "When you retire, you go to the top of the volunteer list." Using that premise, Good Shepherd should have a fantastic group of volunteers.....and we do!

Our paid staff does a wonderful job, but their efforts would be far less effective without the large group of volunteers backing them up.

People too numerous to mention show up week after week to skillfully do their tasks without fanfare. While we see the results of some volunteers' work, others do their tasks faithfully yet unseen. The results are a well-run and smooth functioning congregation. If the spirit is moving you to work for the Lord, contact Pastor Bruce or any of the Elders. We currently have need of many different skills.

Think you have no skills? Think again. I once read this quote, "God doesn't choose the enabled, He enables the chosen."

*Volunteering is
a work of heart*

Another benefit of church work is making new friends. When you greet someone on Sunday morning, that's an acquaintance. But the people you work shoulder to shoulder with doing God's work soon become friends.



To all of our many volunteers, we say – THANK YOU!!!

Til next time, God's Blessings,
Dick Steller

Lunch Bunch



April lunch bunch will meet at Quam's Burgers, April 26th @ 11:30. Please sign-up on the sign-up sheets on the bulletin board in the Sanctuary and in Shepherd's Hall. Come join in the good fellowship, good food...good fun! Everyone is welcome. Any questions call Gary or Barbara Gullikson.



ATTENDANCE INFORMATION

FEBRUARY 2017

FEBRUARY 2018

WORSHIP SERVICE TOTALS (AVERAGE)

135

135

Creation/Evolution

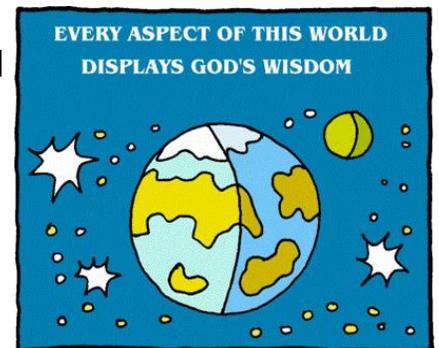


The hits against evolution as being the reason why we are here becomes more daunting as time goes on. Scientists from around the world have been removing the mineral contents from hundreds of dinosaur bones and in almost every case are finding re-hydratable flesh. Blood cells, veins and other portions of long dead dinosaurs. The problem for evolutionists is that there is no explanation as to how that can be if the remains are tens of millions of years old. Even one million years old is impossible. There is no biologist on earth that can explain how it would be possible. Their explanation, is that their understanding is that hundreds of thousands of years might be possible, but more likely tens of thousands of years. The furor being caused is so intense that scientists writing of their discoveries have been fired for reporting it. The avalanche of other scientists coming forward is making the firings look like the censorship creationists have known for a long time.

The absolute complexity of DNA is making even staunch pro evolutionists begin to think twice about no ID required as every cell in ones body has a complete instruction set inscribed into it as to how to build that body. A DNA code with billions of molecules imprinted exactly into every one of the trillions of cells in 1 body and thousands of enzymes with the average one too complicated for our most powerful computers to properly model and the hardest one beyond all the computers in the world working at attempting it. Yet many evolutionists want you to believe mindlessness, chance and time are all that were required.

Mindlessness and chance seem to be gone as a possibility and now with the discovery of dinosaur flesh being found destroys time as the third leg of their hypothesis.

The deeper I dig into this huge subject the more convinced I am that with scientific evidence there is a Creator and His Name is Jesus Christ.



Joseph Laberge

Early Learning Center News

The preschool is now registered with Amazon Smiles. Please support your church's preschool by shopping at smile.amazon.com and selecting Good Shepherd Lutheran Church as your charity of choice! Amazon will donate 0.5% of purchase price to the preschool when you select Good Shepherd Lutheran Church as your charity of choice. Please be sure to select the correct Good Shepherd because there are quite a few on the list! Our unique charity link is: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/59-1113929>



How to prevent financial scams against the elderly



Even the brightest are being duped. The latest statistics indicate one in five elderly Americans is subjected to a financial scam in his or her lifetime. There are dozens of scams and thousands of criminals posing as fake intermediaries for Medicare, the Internal Revenue Service, Social Security, sweepstakes and reverse mortgages. Of all the scams out there, the most insidious involves preying on the elderly's love of family. This is the perfect recipe for high-tech swindlers to extract money and disappear into the digital ether. Here is how it works: The senior citizen receives a phone call. Before that call, criminals already have used social media to identify you, and who your children and grandchildren are. Criminals troll Facebook, Snapchat and Linked-in, utilizing search services to compile a dossier. New age cyber crooks can hack through so-called private settings in seconds to build a profile on an elderly target. Now back to the phone call. "Hello, Grandma? This is Brittany." Fake Brittany is crying and sniffing, using a slightly static connection on a Bluetooth so Grandma has a hard time hearing her. Brittany says she has been in an accident and a lawyer wants to talk to her. She finishes the conversation by saying, "please do not tell anyone!" The fake lawyer gets on the phone and, after establishing rapport, says: "To keep Brittany out of jail, I need you to overnight \$5,000 in cash by FedEx. It has to be cash so we can post bond. To keep this out of the press and off Brittany's record, I have convinced the judge to issue a gag order. You must keep this quiet for now. Let me be clear: Brittany is in significant trouble, but I can help her." Brittany gets back on the phone and says, in a tearful voice, "Thank you, Grandma!" This goes on for six more days, with the fake lawyer providing reasons that Grandma believed, thereby extorting \$30,000 from her. Sadly, family members initiate many of the financial scams to tap Grandma. The real-life example above was not an inside job, though. This case involved multiple countries, drop zones, mules, a scam call center, fake phone numbers, social media and elderly target profiling. What can we do? If you are a bank official, train your tellers to ask questions. If an elderly customer is uncharacteristically withdrawing large amounts of cash over a short period, ask why and alert the supervisor. If you are the police or law enforcement and suspect a scam is in process, recognize fast follow-up is essential. Each police department should have a financial scam hotline so police departments can respond quickly to one another. Most police departments are not equipped deal with interstate or out-of-country scam artists. Also, educate the elderly public through awareness seminars using non-social media tools. Many seniors do not use Facebook or Snapchat. Newspapers, community events, churches and senior centers are a good start. If you are FedEx, USPS or UPS, have your fraud divisions electronically tag overnight envelopes that contain cash. Realize your best-in -class delivery system is being used as pipelines to move cash. Provide the records to the police.



**DON'T
BE A
VICTIM
OF
PHONE
SCAMS!**



(continued on pg. 7)

If you have elderly parents, grandparents or friends, keep in touch with them on a regular basis so they remember your voice. Proactively tell them you would never ask for cash over the phone. Minimize your social media usage. Do not share that Grandma gave you \$500 for Christmas. Many videos are trolled and voices are extracted and digitally reordered, then transformed to reach out to the unsuspecting elderly target. One piece of data is not significant, but accumulated information can be a powerful tool for criminals. If you are a senior citizen, *never* send cash, wire money, or leave cash on a doorstep. *Never* share your Social Security number, account numbers or financial information. If you suspect a scam, hang-up the phone and call the police immediately. We all need to work together to put these criminals out of commission and in jail.



From Florida Today
Jackie Elmore

April Birthdays



- | | | | |
|------------------|-------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| 1 st | Glenna Lau | 18 th | Helen Laberge |
| 5 th | Jelena Schumacher | 21 st | Jeanne Forte |
| 6 th | Danielle Baxter | 22 th | Bella Mia Hall |
| 9 th | Suzane Alberts | 27 th | Peder Larson |
| 11 th | Michael Bross | 30 th | Lesley Lundberg |
| 16 th | Miriam Rauha | 30 th | Gabriel Alberts |

April Anniversaries

- | | |
|------------------|----------------------|
| 16 th | Clair & Pearl Held |
| 19 th | Rich & Diana Good |
| 19 th | Allen & Lorae Bremer |
| 21 st | Tom & Jamie Affeld |
| 28 th | Lynn & Ruby Edlund |



We join in thanking God for His blessings in the past. We ask Him to keep you in His Grace and love in the future. If your birthday or anniversary was not listed correctly, please contact the office.

