

NEW LIFE NEWS

Jesus is the Resurrection and the Life...

A Life He gives and a Life we share...



What is the importance of Christian Baptism?

A man lies in the recovery room after serious, life-saving heart surgery. The surgeon walks into the room and gets down on his knees beside the bed. With tears in his eyes the doctor says, "Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! I can't thank you enough for what you have done for me!"

There's something backwards about that scene. Shouldn't the patient be the one thanking the doctor? After all, that surgeon saved his life. The patient owes that medical man a huge debt of gratitude.

Many people get Christian Baptism backwards. They think that Baptism is something we do for God, a way of showing obedience to him. That seems appropriate. After all, parents are the ones who bring their children to the baptismal font. However, in Baptism God is really the one who does something for us.

And what wonderful things God does for us in Baptism! The apostle Peter said, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit" (Acts 2:38). In those words Peter describes two of the wondrous blessings of Baptism: the forgiveness of sins and the gift of the Holy Spirit. "All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23). We are all sinners. Sin separates us from God. Sin takes away the blessings he wants us to have. Sin keeps us out of heaven. So God did something about sin. He sent Jesus, his Son. Jesus lived perfectly in our place, died on the cross to pay for all our sins and rose again to assure us of eternal life. In Baptism, God gives us this forgiveness that Jesus won for us.

The other blessing, the gift of the Holy Spirit, is faith or trust in Jesus. Faith is the hand that receives all the blessings that Jesus won for us. In Baptism God miraculously works faith in our hearts so that we don't miss out on a single blessing that Jesus won for us. Through faith worked in Baptism, God gives us all the blessings earned by our Savior: forgiveness of sins, a new life of peace and hope, and eternal life in heaven.

Is Baptism important? Absolutely! In Baptism God is at work for us. Through Baptism God saves us.

For more Questions & Answers, go to <u>www.WhatAboutJesus.com</u>, then *Questioning God*.

Resurrection Lutheran Church New Life News

We Hear God's Word

In the month of July, average attendance was 32 on Thursday and 126 on Sunday, for a total of 158. We welcomed 24 guests on average each weekend. Current membership is 285. Adult Bible study average, total, for all studies was 32. Current adult membership is 212.

We thank God for each person who heard God's Word in worship and Bible study!

Welcome New Members

Sunday, September 13 there will be a new member welcome party for 18 new members and sponsors. What a blessing to welcome so many new people to our Resurrection family!

New Bible Class Begins

God's institution of marriage in on attack from all sides. Marriage is being redefined, divorce is up. The list goes on. Starting September 13 at 10.30, our Sunday morning Bible study will examine what God's Word has to say about marriage, about love, about commitment, and about God's enduring love to us. Please make plans to join us.

Marriage Enrichment

Mark Saturday, October 10 on your calendar. From 1-5 p.m. there will be a special marriage enrichment Bible study at church. Couples will be given a list of "date night" options to enjoy after the session is over. Several members of RLC have attended marriage enrichment retreats and brought back glowing reviews. Give it a try. Contact Pastor or Elizabeth Strutz with questions.

Resurrection has made strengthening Christian marriages one of the Big Audacious Goals (BAG) for this coming school year.

Vine & Branches Fellowship and Sermon Study Groups

Sign-ups for the fall session of Vine & Branches are open. Groups are filling up fast! Don't miss out on this opportunity to experience these exciting in-home fellowship and sermon studies. Grow closer to each other and Jesus.

Outreach in the Mt. Horeb community

Nearly 30 people from three congregation: Good News in Mt. Horeb, Resurrection and St. John's in Juneau, turned out on Saturday Aug 23 to distribute flyers at Good News. Before the morning was over one person called to register for the "Mornings with Mommy" program. Your labor in the Lord is not in vain.



Resurrection Lutheran Preschool Begins Soon!

3 Year Old PreK Tuesday/Thursday 8:15am - 11:15am

4 Year Old PreK Tuesday-Friday 7:50am -11am

Lunch Bunch Tuesday-Friday 11:01am - 12:15pm

God's blessings to our staff and students as they begin another school year!



Sunday School Begins Soon!

Sunday School starts September 13th at 10:30 a.m. for kids Pre-K – 6th grade. Bring the kids the first day to register. We have been blessed with many children this Sunday School year, up to 18 in the 1st – 3rd grade class, so if you are willing to be an assistant to the teacher, please let Lisa Neumann know. There is no need to prepare for anything, it will just help the day the lesson is taught and is very fun and easy to do!

Present Moment Parenting Class

Everyone is welcomed to attend The Present Moment Parenting Class coming up in September, that will be lead by our RLC member Kathleen Harwood, a certified parenting coach and group facilitator. This parenting group consists of eight one hour sessions on Tuesday evenings beginning September 15th - November 3rd. The sessions will be 6:30PM - 7:30PM and will be held here at RLC. Please email Kathleen to register for this class at Kathleen@InThe Moment Parent.com.

Resurrection Clothing Closets Needs Children's Clothing

The Resurrection Clothing Closet is on the Badger Prairie Needs Network and a "ecare" email request list, were able to help a family with three children. Thank you so much to Martha Waterworth for the timely donation of girls' clothing--the girl's pajamas were given to this family.

Because of work and family commitments, Becky will not have as much time to shop, so we need your help with replenishing the following items:

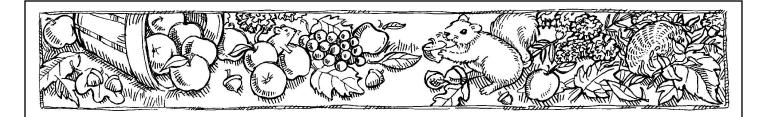
- 10/12 boys pants and long sleeved shirts
- 10/12 boys winter coat (I try to keep one winter coat of all sizes on hand)
- 3T and 4T girls pants and 4T girls long sleeved shirts
- 6 boys pants and underwear
- 6 boys long sleeved shirts

- children's shoes appropriate for fall/winter and winter boots of all sizes*

*PLEASE no holes, broken zippers, stains, worn elastic, etc.--these items will be re-donated or tossed

Please don't forget--these donations can be deducted on your personal income tax returns. If you have any questions, please call Becky.

This is a wonderful way to show God's love and to introduce Jesus to folks at a time when they may be the most receptive, so thank you for your help. Becky Deegan (576-5252 or 527-3218)





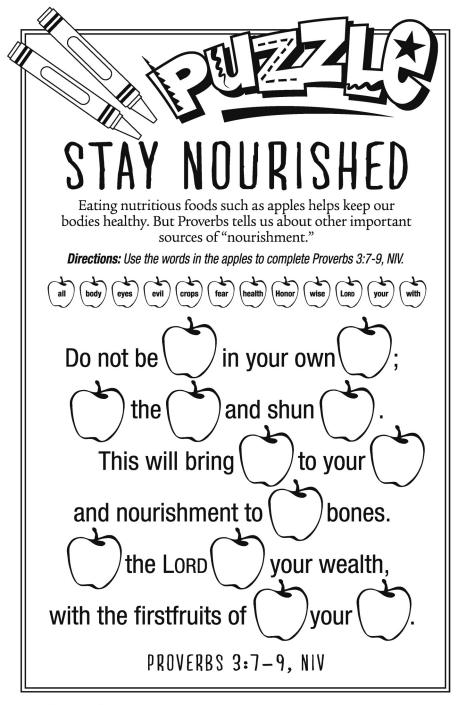
Enjoy this healthy apple snack after a busy day of learning.

What you need:

- Apple
- Apple corer (optional)
- Peanut butter (or other
- spread) • Pecan pieces
- Shredded coconut
- Chocolate chips

What you do:

- 1. If you have an apple corer, remove the core. Then slice apple into thin rings. (If you don't have a corer, slice into rings first and then remove the core.)
- 2. Spread peanut butter across one side of each ring.
- 3. Sprinkle with pecans, coconut and chocolate chips.
- 4. Enjoy with a glass of milk!



Answer: Do not be <u>wise</u> in your own <u>eyes</u>; fear the <u>Lorn</u> and shun <u>evil</u>. This will bring <u>health</u> to your <u>body</u> and nourishment to <u>your</u> bones. <u>Honor</u> the Lorn <u>with</u> your wealth, with the firstfruits of <u>all</u> your <u>crops</u>.

RLC Council Meeting Highlights

The council consists of seven men who are chosen by the congregation to serve and lead our church. Those men are: Denny Moore, President; Rick Hermanson, Treasurer; Randy Huebner, Secretary; Mike Korth, Preschool; Ned Reimer, Inreach; Gene Cate, Outreach; and John Deegan, Building and Grounds. These men are always happy to hear your ideas, suggestions and input.

A few highlights from the meeting on August 18:

★ The meeting opened with a time of encouraging the council from Good News Lutheran Church to keep up the good work of spreading the Good News about Jesus. Good News has grown from 29 original members in July of 2013 to 64 members today! Thanks be to God. Good News reported that almost all of the new members were previously unchurched. We thank God for the blessings of reaching the lost. Resurrection shared experiences of how to get more members involved and the growing pains, blood, sweat and tears involved with starting a new church. While the efforts of Good News are being blessed, there is always a need to have more members involved in all areas of ministry, especially outreach work. The congregations reviewed a list of joint ministries in the areas of outreach, fellowship, worship and leadership. Both congregations were encouraged: Resurrection to share in the joy of growth at Good News and inspired to continue working together and supporting the work; Good News to hear that Resurrection and our synod are happy with the progress being made.

+ The council began discussion of Bible reading, discussing Matthew, Mark and Luke. The council will read the entire Bible over the course of one year and discuss the previous month's reading at each council meeting.

✦ New members were welcomed: Michelle Kramer and son Hudson by transfer. Nathan Sippel and son Carter by transfer. Vicar Eric and Jennifer Melso by transfer. Three members were granted transfer to other WELS congregations as they have moved from the area: Tony and Heather Schumacher and Steven Pelischek.

+ The council heard about many individuals who have started instruction classes to become members. Pastor continues working with individuals who have started classes and not continued.

✦ The council heard a report of outreach blessings, especially on canvassing. Over 150 doors have been knocked on. Over 50 people indicated some interest and were visited a second time to be invited to our church picnic. 12 of these have been added to our list of prospective members. There still have been 0 slammed doors.

✦ The next Bible 101 class will begin Thursday, September 24 at 7:30 p.m. All members are encouraged to attend for the review of basic teachings of the Bible as well as bring a friend or family member who has questions about the Bible. Free child care will be provided.

+ A comment was made regarding the history of Resurrection and a volunteer would be appreciated to assemble and print a written history of the congregation. If interested, please speak with Pastor. He has some documents that could be of assistance.

★ A committee has been formed to best use a recent gift for stain glass windows. The committee is looking at an overall plan for the sanctuary to include not only stain glass, but other items of art to best allow focus on Christ and his Word. The committee will make a report to the congregation at the next congregational open forum, likely in October.

✦ Other blessings were noted in terms of preschool enrollment (20 in 4K and 7 in 3K), Vine and Branches participation (all groups full or close after two weeks of sign ups, need to add additional group), number of recent new members (18 invited to a new member gathering in September) and many other blessings. Thanks be to God!



This is a no cost, no obligation basic Bible information course and will give participants a solid, foundational understand of God's Word.

Classes meet on Thursdays at 7:30PM starting September 24 and each session will last about one hour.

There are five sessions in the series:

September 24 – Session one: *Can I be sure I'm going to heaven?*

> October 1 – Session two: *Do I need Jesus?*

October 8 – Session three: **Does Jesus love me?**

October 15 – Session four: *How can I believe in Jesus?*

October 22- Session five: *How do good works fit in?*

FREE CHILD CARE AND REFRESHMENTS!

Contact Pastor Strutz at: Cell: 608.515.4334 Email: pastorstrutz@rlcverona.com

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