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# The Challenge

A newsletter of Mt. Carmel Evangelical Lutheran Church

June - July 2010

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*Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, as clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb down the middle of the great street of the city. On each side of the river stood the tree of life, bearing twelve crops of fruit, yielding its fruit every month. And the leaves of the tree are for healing of the nations. Revelation 22:1-2*

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

When my sister and I were kids, we spent a lot of time by ourselves because our parents worked. We did all kinds of things “exploring the world” and also got into trouble quite often.

Once, we went to play in the little forest which was near to our home. Suddenly we found a creek which we had not seen before, or maybe we just had not payed attention to it.

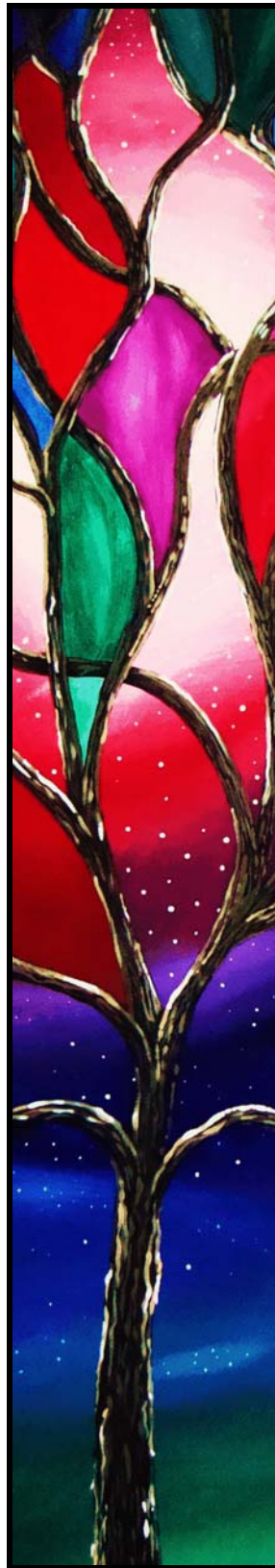
It was very beautiful with different metallic colors: purple, yellow, green, blue, red. My sister and I were amazed and very delighted. We stared at the water and we were mesmerized for a long time. We both were sure that a fairy had touched the water, and for that reason we named it 'The Magic Creek'.

And of course, if it was a magic creek, it also had magic powers! That meant that you could wish for whatever you wanted and your wishes would be fulfilled. All you needed to do was to look at the water while you said your wishes. My sister and I were convinced that that's the way magic creeks worked.

We sat by the creek and made all kinds of wishes. At first we wanted to have some new toys, but when realizing that we really can wish for whatever we want, the wish list changed: a beautiful castle, a rose garden, ponds with golden swans, a prince.

How lucky we were! We had found a magic creek!

We were so excited about the creek that we ran back to our yard to tell about it to other children who were playing there. Everybody rushed to the creek, and because my sister and I had found it we got to tell the other kids



what they needed to do. So we all sat by 'The Magic Creek' staring at the colorful water and making wishes.

When it was time to go, we all decided to come back the next day. But the next day the magic had disappeared from our creek, the colors were not there anymore.

As we grew older we learned that it was gasoline that had made the water look so colorful. Somehow some gasoline had got into the creek.

The book of Revelation talks about the river of the water of life. It is a promise of eternal life. It is crystal clear, there is nothing impure in it. There are no metallic colors in it, no gasolines have polluted it. It flows from the throne of God and of the Lamb, Jesus Christ, who is the source of eternal love. Flowing from that throne to us comes all what is pure, right, life sustaining, uplifting, encouraging and true.

We easily become fascinated by waters which look beautiful, with lots of different trendy colors, sometimes even metallic ones. They make us believe that they can give us fulfilling lives, success, health, happiness. In our fascination we do not see that they are just empty promises. Those kinds of waters cannot make but empty promises, because they do not flow from the throne of God and of the Lamb, Jesus Christ. They look beautiful and interesting, but they are nothing but gasoline and pollution and environmentally hazardous.

We like to do “spiritual shopping around”, we listen to and observe what is trendy and then go for it. We take from the spiritual smorgosboard on our plate anything that looks nice, exotic and tasty. We like to look at waters that promise to fulfill our wishes and desires. But those promises do not last. “Magic” is not a lasting thing.

What is lasting? God's Word, love, grace and forgiveness. All that comes from the river of the water of life.

Pastor Nina

### **BAD WEATHER CLOSURE PLAN**

If there is a bad weather situation and a possible closure of Mt. Carmel call the church at 503-244-5143. We will change the greeting to indicate a closure at least two hours before service time. Pastor Nina will also send an email to this list with the closure information. The Lewis & Clark inclement weather line is 503-768-SNOW and would also make a good source of local conditions for Mt. Carmel. Campus Safety posts adverse weather conditions/closures even during winter break and holidays.

**LAST ONE LEAVING THE CHURCH:** Please remember to close all inside doors when leaving Church, double check the front and back doors to be sure that they are locked and secure. Check coffee pot to make sure no red lights are on. Check to make sure that the library and sanctuary thermostats are set at 62 when leaving.

**CALL PROCESS:** If you have any questions or comments don't hesitate to contact any one on the Call Committee:

grieganderson@comcast.net: Grieg Anderson  
geboble@hotmail.com: Bob Brandt  
tskedmd@aol.com: Kelly Doyle  
frenz@lclark.edu: Lisa Frenz  
bghemphill@comcast.net: Barbara Hemphill  
courtherm@gmail.com: Courtney Hermann  
patsup\_5@msn.com: Pat King  
ninatetrim@msn.com: Pastor Nina  
rraihala@msn.com: Kathy Raihala

### **THE CHALLENGE NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:**

Items for THE CHALLENGE are due the 15th of the month: Email them to Lisa Frenz at [frenz@lclark.edu](mailto:frenz@lclark.edu)

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS – DEADLINES:**

In order to shorten the time it takes to do announcements on Sunday morning, we are trying to get most of them into the bulletin. This means it would be best if any announcements for the Sunday bulletin could get to Lisa Frenz ([frenz@lclark.edu](mailto:frenz@lclark.edu)) by Tuesday night.

Announcements for the e-news should get to her by Monday morning, as she tries to get this out sometime between Monday afternoon and Tuesday morning.

**TAKE TIME FOR PRAYER:** Join the *Prayer Circle* at 9:30 a.m. and prepare yourself for worship. We pray specifically for Mt. Carmel's future and other prayer concerns.

**PRAYER BOX:** If you have a prayer concern please write it out on paper and place it in the "prayer box", a wooden chest, on the shelf in the sanctuary. These are not taken out of the box but kept completely confidential. The *Prayer Circle* prays for those concerns at their Sunday meeting.

**FROM A PROUD DAD & MOM:** June 18th, Linda Farmer (Riss) will graduate first in her class from Navy Independent Corpsman School, an intense 13 month program covering approximately 2 years of medical school. As an independent corpsman, she will treat, diagnose and prescribe for active duty military personnel on land and aboard ship. During her training she also was promoted to Hospital Corpsman First Class. She expects her first assignment will be aboard the USS New Orleans based out of San Diego.

### **2010 CAMP LUTHERWOOD PROGRAM**

**REGISTRATION OPEN:** Online registration is open and waiting for you to register for one or more of the many camp programs being offered at Camp Lutherwood this summer. Contact Jeff Bethke for more information, [office@lutherwood.org](mailto:office@lutherwood.org). Check out the Camp Lutherwood, [www.lutherwood.org](http://www.lutherwood.org), for more information and to register for camp TODAY!

### **MT. CARMEL MUSIC:**

**Special Music:** Any time you would like to share a special piece of music with us at worship just let us know. Please contact Lisa Frenz.

**NO CHOIR.** Choir will resume in the fall.

**MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST:** We will meet Saturdays, June 5 and July 3, 9:00 a.m. at the Golden Touch Restaurant, Barbur Boulevard & 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Come join us for a "dutch-treat" breakfast.

**THRIVENT NEWS:** Thrivent members should contact their registered representative to find out the estimated amount of their Thrivent Choice Dollars that will become available this summer and that can be donated to Mount Carmel. This would be of great help to your new Mount Carmel Thrivent Choice Congregational Advocates as they plan for this year. Last year, Thrivent funds(\$1,020) were split with 50%(\$510) going to General Operations and 50%(\$510) to Special Projects.

Glyn Brice, Lead Congregational Advocate  
Grieg Anderson, Congregational Advocate  
Clarice Anderson, Congregational Advocate  
Lisa Frenz, Congregational Advocate.

**Call Committee Report:** Pastor Kinter will get back to the committee in June about developing an interview process, along with some names for our consideration.

***Watch for breaking news in June!***

**FLOWERS FOR THE ALTAR:** Please sign up! There are lots of dates available.



**SERVERS NEEDED:** Please take a look at the sign up sheet on the hall bulletin board. We someone to deliver the June and July Burnside meals the first Friday of the month. If you haven't done it before we'll find someone to guide you through. Check with Berneice Funk if you have any questions.

**COMMITTEE MEETINGS:** Growth will meet Tuesday, June 1<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 p.m. Outreach meets Sunday, June 6<sup>th</sup> after worship. Resource meets on Tuesday, June 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. and Council at 8:00 p.m. Worship Planning will meet Wednesday, June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 3:30 p.m.

**THE CHALLENGE DELIVERY METHOD:** If you would like to receive *The Challenge* via email contact Lisa Frenz at [frenz@lclark.edu](mailto:frenz@lclark.edu).

**WOMEN'S RETREAT 2010:** We will be heading to Menucha on October 15 - 17, 2010, for our annual women's retreat. Our theme this year is *Women's Experience: A New Resurrection*. Watch for an email or letter with more details.

**STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL:** Our annual indulgence in ice cream, cake and Oregon strawberries will take place on Thursday, June 10, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. Be sure to bring your friends and neighbors to this feast. There is a **sign up sheet** on the bulletin board for cake, shortcake, etc.

**WOMEN'S PRAYER PARTNER ANNUAL MEETING:** We will have our annual High Tea meeting, Sunday, June 27, after worship. Once a year we meet for tea and draw the names of our prayer partners. Prayer Partners are chosen at random by drawing one of a pair of necklaces. Matching necklaces then become Prayer Partners for a year, supporting each other in prayer. New partners are determined at our annual High Tea. If you would like to be a prayer partner just come to the meeting. If you can't make it, tell Lisa Frenz ([frenz@lclark.edu](mailto:frenz@lclark.edu)) or Susan Doyle ([kdoylelawpc@aol.com](mailto:kdoylelawpc@aol.com)) of your interest and we'll be sure to match you up with a partner. *Current partners, don't forget to bring your necklaces.*

**CHILDREN'S CHURCH:** After the Sunday morning worship Children's Message, *Children's Church* is now in session! Any child is welcome to participate in a brief lesson. They will return in time for Communion.

## ✿ Sprout and ✿ Grow ✿ Mukala ✿ Worship ✿

Our *Mukala* Mass will be June 20 and July 18, 2010, 1:00 p.m. Join us for this very informal, children friendly worship filled with songs, stories, movement and prayer.

**WEEKLY UPDATES:** If you want weekly e-updates on the doings at Mt. Carmel contact Lisa Frenz at [frenz@lclark.edu](mailto:frenz@lclark.edu) and get "What's Happening."

### SEVERE SPRING WEATHER

An update from Lutheran Disaster Response May 5, 2010

The last week has been a devastating one for many parts of the southeastern United States. On April 24th, a powerful tornado touched down and traveled across five counties – over 100 miles – in central Mississippi. Then, last weekend, torrential rains brought flash flooding to four states, heaviest in and around Nashville, Tennessee. In all, these storms have been blamed for more than two dozen deaths, and thousands of homes have been damaged or destroyed.

Lutheran Disaster Response, has provided two emergency response grants for work in Mississippi and Tennessee. These grants of \$10,000 each, given to Lutheran Episcopal Services in Mississippi, help to strengthen the work of staff with affiliate agencies there, some of whom were directly impacted themselves and many of whom have been already working tirelessly in the unfolding response. They will also seek to serve the long-term needs of individuals, families, and communities affected by these storms.

We lift up in prayer the many people affected by these terrible storms, especially those who have lost loved ones or property, and we ask God to comfort and protect them in the long recovery process that lies before them. If you would like to donate to LDR's efforts check out <http://www.ldr.org/rebuilding/index.html>

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## COMING ATTRACTION!!

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Gather up your family and friends and join us on June 6th for an afternoon matinee. Mt. Carmel's sanctuary will transform into a theater where the movie "Up" will be shown. The popcorn and goodies will be all set and the movie will start at 3pm. Come for the fun of it!!

# June 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 <b>10:a.m. Quilting</b>  <b>7:00 p.m. Growth Committee</b>	2 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Pastor's Office Hours  8:00 p.m. RCPD	3	4 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Pastor's Office Hours  <b>5:00 p.m. Burnside Meals</b>	5 <b>9:00 a.m. Men's Prayer Breakfast @ Golden Touch Restaurant</b>
6 <i>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</i> 9:30 a.m. Prayer 10:00 a.m. Worship 11:15 a.m. Fellowship 11:15 a.m. Outreach Committee 11:30 a.m. Adult Fellowship 3:00 p.m. Movie Time!	7	8 <b>10:a.m. Quilting</b>  <b>7:00 p.m. Resource Committee</b> <b>8:00 p.m. Council</b>	9 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Pastor's Office Hours  8:00 p.m. RCPD	10 <b>7:00-8:30 p.m. Strawberry Festival</b>  	11 <i>Barnabas, Apostle</i> 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Pastor's Office Hours	12
13 <i>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</i> 9:30 a.m. Prayer 10:00 a.m. Worship 11:15 a.m. Fellowship 11:30 a.m. Adult Fellowship	14	15 <b>10:a.m. Quilting</b>	16 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Pastor's Office Hours  8:00 p.m. RCPD	17	18 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Pastor's Office Hours  <b>12:00 p.m. Jean's Meals</b>	19
20 <i>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</i> 9:30 a.m. Prayer 10:00 a.m. Worship 11:15 a.m. Fellowship 11:30 a.m. Adult Fellowship ☼ 1:00 p.m. <i>Mukula</i> Worship ☼	21	22 <b>10:a.m. Quilting</b>	23 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Pastor's Office Hours <b>3:30 p.m. Worship Planning Committee</b>	24 <i>John the Baptist</i>	25 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Pastor's Office Hours	26
27 <i>5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</i> 9:30 a.m. Prayer 10:00 a.m. Worship 11:15 a.m. Fellowship 11:15 a.m. Prayer Partner Tea 11:30 a.m. Adult Fellowship	28	29 <i>Peter and Paul, Apostles</i> <b>10:a.m. Quilting</b>	30 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Pastor's Office Hours  8:00 p.m. RCPD	29	30	

# July 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Pastor's Office Hours  <b>5:00 p.m. Burnside Meals</b>	3 <i>Thomas, Apostle</i> <b>9:00 a.m. Men's Prayer Breakfast @ Golden Touch Restaurant</b>
4 <i>6<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</i> 9:30 a.m. Prayer 10:00 a.m. Worship 11:15 a.m. Fellowship 11:30 a.m. Adult Fellowship	5	6 <b>10:a.m. Quilting</b>	7 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Pastor's Office Hours  8:00 p.m. RCPD	8	9 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Pastor's Office Hours	10
11 <i>7<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</i> 9:30 a.m. Prayer 10:00 a.m. Worship 11:15 a.m. Fellowship 11:30 a.m. Adult Fellowship	12	13 <b>10:a.m. Quilting</b>	14 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Pastor's Office Hours  8:00 p.m. RCPD	15	16 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Pastor's Office Hours  <b>12:00 p.m. Jean's Meals</b>	17
18 <i>8<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</i> 9:30 a.m. Prayer 10:00 a.m. Worship 11:15 a.m. Fellowship 11:30 a.m. Adult Fellowship ☼ 1:00 p.m. <i>Mukula</i> Worship ☼	19	20 <b>10:a.m. Quilting</b>	21 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Pastor's Office Hours  8:00 p.m. RCPD	22 <i>Mary Magdalene, Apostle</i>	23 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Pastor's Office Hours	24
25 <i>9<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</i> 9:30 a.m. Prayer 10:00 a.m. Worship 11:15 a.m. Fellowship 11:30 a.m. Adult Fellowship	26 <i>James, Apostle</i>	27 <b>10:a.m. Quilting</b>	28 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Pastor's Office Hours  8:00 p.m. RCPD	29	30 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Pastor's Office Hours	31

## **Mt. Carmel Lutheran Church**

A "Reconciling In Christ" Congregation

515 S.W. Maplecrest Drive, Portland, Oregon 97219-6417

(503) 244-5143 + [www.mtcarmellutheran.com](http://www.mtcarmellutheran.com)

*Mt. Carmel shares God's love through worship, service and community.  
We warmly welcome all people regardless of race,  
ethnicity, sexual orientation or identity.*

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Come, Creator God.

Come, Christ Jesus.

Come, Holy Spirit.

Come be born in us today.

For we believe.

We believe in one God, yet, three distinct persons:  
Parent, Brother and Counselor.

God our Parent has given us life, creating the world  
and everything in it.

God our Brother is Christ Jesus, who through immortal  
was born as a human, lived, died and rose from the  
dead that we might be reunited into the family of God.

God the Counselor guides us, leads us and supports us  
in our daily lives, giving us faith and hope and strength.

Come, Creator God.

Come, Christ Jesus.

Come, Holy Spirit.

Come be born in us today.

