

SignPosts

April 2013

Volume 2 Issue 4

SignPosts Editorial Team:

Pastor Greg: Cheer Leader

Beth Nutter: Grammar/Punctuation Queen

Cindy Meyer: Computer Geek

From The Pastor's Study

According to John's gospel, the first thing the risen Christ says is, "Woman, why are you weeping?" Why indeed? Everything Mary had hoped for had come crashing down over that horrible weekend. Jesus was crucified and buried, and her hope that the Messiah had come to fix the brokenness of the world seemed to be dead as well. But standing right behind her was the One who was and is the hope of the world.

Each of us has had a moment when we have wept and felt the loss of hope. Some of us have experienced the loss of a job or have had other financial burdens. We have seen illness and death rob someone we love of life. Children, parents or other family members have made choices that have caused us great fear. We weep and wonder if anything can help us.

Easter teaches us that the power of God can make all things new. Mary heard her name and all of her fears vanished into hope. God is still calling out our names, healing our hurts and bringing hope to every part of our lives that is controlled by fear.

Alleluia! He is risen! Hope is alive forever!

On the journey together,

Greg

Thinking Theology: What Those Words Mean

Apocalypse: From the Greek word that means "revelation," "disclosure," or "unveiling." The Apocalypse has come to mean the final revelation of God drawing time to a close. Christians also believe that the perfect and full reign of Christ will follow the apocalypse.

Apocrypha: A group of books that were included in a Greek version of the Old Testament but not included in the Hebrew Bible. Roman Catholic, Anglican and Eastern Orthodox churches receive these books as a part of the Bible, but most Protestant churches do not.

Apologetics: From a Greek word that means "suitable for defense." Apologetics is the discipline of showing a reasonable basis for the trustworthiness of the Christian faith. An apologist is one who demonstrates the reasons why the Christian faith is true and believable.

Got a term you hear in church but wonder what it really means? Send Pastor Greg a note and he will feature it in an upcoming Thinking Theology.



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Newsorthy

Mark Your Calendar!

2013 Book Club

Let's read some great books together! During the year, we will study five books that are wonderful guides to the Christian life. Our second book is *The Ragamuffin Gospel* by Brennan Manning. This wonderful book reminds us of the great love of God and His boundless mercy. We will discuss this selection on April 25th. Other books in our series are:

The Divine Conspiracy by Dallas Willard, May, June and July
Beginning to Pray by Anthony Bloom, September and October
Three Simple Rules by Rueben P. Job, November and December

New Youth Bible Study: Living The Journey

How do you take the wisdom of the Bible and apply it to your daily life? Come and join us on at the Randall's house for a journey that will take us into the scriptures and then lead us back out into the world with new ways to bless others. Each session will last one hour, and we will meet every other week through May. April dates are the 7th and 28th and we begin at 7:00 pm.

ATS: After The Sermon Class

Sermons are mostly one way communication. The preacher talks, you listen. We're going to try and make the sermon a conversation in 2013 with our ATS Class (After The Sermon Class). Join us in the fellowship hall after the ARISE service for a discussion about the sermon

topic of the day. Most Sundays it will be lead by the preacher of the day, but we'll also have others lead the discussion. If you are not currently involved in a Sunday School class, come and join us!

OIAM Is Coming September 21!

OIAM stands for "Operation In As Much" and refers to the command of Jesus in Matthew 25 that in as much as we cared for others, we cared for Jesus. Make plans to join us on September 21 as we serve others in the love of Christ.

OIAM Lunch-14 April

Wondering just what OIAM is? Do you want to learn more about how you can help with the many local community missions projects (eleven so far and growing!). Join us in Fellowship Hall following the 11:00 service for a benefit lunch. Proceeds will go towards the many local projects currently underway. Your CBC OIAM team will be there to answer any questions you have and help you choose the project your talents and heart lead you to support. Lunch is \$7 and you can place an order "to go". Let Cindy Meyer, Carie Davis or Tracy Newton know and you can pick your order up at 11:00 a.m.

Kara Jo Smith Benefit Concert

Please join us on April 5th at 6:30 pm for a benefit concert for Kara Jo Smith. Patrick Hoercher will be bringing a short message and the ARISE band and Pure Country will provide the music.

Children and Youth Sunday

On April 21, our youth and children will lead both of our worship services. Come and support them and learn from them as we worship together!



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Ordination

Our 11 am service on April 28 will be a service of ordination for Patrick Hoercher. This will also be Patrick's last Sunday with us as our intern. Come and join us as we celebrate what God has done through Patrick during his time with us.

- ❖ That God is showing us great love, mercy and grace as we walk the journey together?
- ❖ That CBC's OIAM Team has ELEVEN local mission projects planned?

Coming Up At CBC:

- ❖ April 1: Deacon's Meeting, church office closed
- ❖ April 3: Called Business Meeting, Joshua Hearne speaking
- ❖ April 4: MCC Meeting
- ❖ April 5: Benefit Concert
- ❖ April 7: Brotherhood Breakfast, The Lord's Supper will be celebrated in both services, Living The Journey Youth Class at the Randall's
- ❖ April 10: Darrell Wise speaking
- ❖ April 14: Patrick Hoercher Preaching
- ❖ April 21: Children and Youth Sunday, Quarterly Business Meeting at 7 pm
- ❖ April 25: Discussion of The Ragamuffin Gospel at 7 pm
- ❖ April 28: Ordination Service for Patrick Hoercher

Did You Know?

- ❖ We had a great Easter Egg hunt at the church on March 20?
- ❖ We had great attendance at the movie night on March 15?
- ❖ Living The Journey has been supplied with yummy snacks from lots of great folks?
- ❖ We continue to help with reading at CES?
- ❖ We are a part of starting a community garden in Clarksville?

Missions

Camp Concord Cleanup: Cleanup days for Camp Concord will be April 20th & 27th beginning at 8:00 a.m. Everyone is invited to come out and help raking leaves, cleaning the buildings and clearing out underbrush. Please let Lannie White or Cindy Meyer know if you're available to help out this year.

On Popes and Pastors: A Tribute to Robert and Esther Schiess

Submitted by Maurice Morgan

Last month, I shared about the topic of languages in Switzerland. This time I'd like to give you an idea about our church family here in Fribourg.

Certainly one of the recent, major news items has been the choice of Jorge Mario Bergoglio as the spiritual guide of the Roman Catholic Church. Since I work with many Catholic theologians, it was fascinating to hear their discussions before and after. One of the lighter comments: some people have to wait a long time to get their dream job! Pope Francis is seventy-six years old and he didn't take this new role coming out of retirement, but out of ministry as a cardinal in Argentina.



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Well, on a much smaller scale, our family has entered a church family at the crossroads of a major change in their leadership: the pastor of twenty-nine years decided to retire. Robert Schiess and his wife Esther were honored this past Sunday (Mar. 24, 2013) for their long and faithful service.

They came to Fribourg after missionary service in Ivory Coast. Twenty-nine years later, they leave the church community vibrant and growing, including more than seventy members (not counting many friends of the church) with around twenty nationalities. This truly reflects the international nature of the Body of Christ!

Something that really impressed me during Sunday's celebration was that Robert spoke so openly about the hard lessons he learned, as pastor and as a disciple of Jesus. He could have covered up all of that and just let people speak his praises. Not Robert, he recognized the joys and the pains that have accompanied them these long years of ministry. In Sunday's last sermon, he spoke on the greatest commandment and what that means practically. Loving God is not only pleasant feelings and praise toward God, but also obedience—not a word that people like to hear these days—a part of love that Robert also learned through some difficult experiences.

Robert and Esther are fine examples of true disciples who don't put on an act; they are authentic people living through the wonderful and tough moments of life. We look forward to hearing how God will use them in this new phase of ministry and life!

P.S. – One of the treats on Sunday was to hear a Christian band from Eritrea.

Our church's website: www.eelf.ch (good to practice your French; the site definitely needs some improvement!)



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Shipwrecked

Submitted by Bill Allen

The only survivor of a shipwreck was washed up on a small uninhabited island. He prayed feverishly for God to rescue him. Every day he scanned the horizon for help, but none seemed forthcoming.

Exhausted, he eventually managed to build a little hut out of driftwood to protect himself from the elements, and to store his few possessions.

One day, after scavenging for food, he arrived home to find his little hut in flames with smoke rolling up to the sky. He felt the worst had happened, and everything was lost. He was stunned with disbelief, grief, and anger. He cried out, 'God! How could you do this to me?'

Early the next day, he was awakened by the sound of a ship approaching the island! It had come to rescue him! 'How did you know I was here?' asked the weary man of his rescuers. 'We saw your smoke signal,' they replied.

The Moral of This Story: It's easy to get discouraged when things are going bad, but we shouldn't lose heart, because God is at work in our lives, even in the midst of our pain and suffering. Remember that the next time your little hut seems to be burning to the ground... it just may be a smoke signal that summons the Grace of God.

Author unknown

Laughter is Good for the Soul

Submitted by Betty Rodenhizer



Conversations With My Father

Submitted by Cindy Meyer

I heard the angels laugh when I picked up the book. Go get the popcorn because this one will make her think they said! Just when I think I'm heading down the right path, You shake it up for me. And now this question of intimacy. How am I supposed to build this intimate relationship with You when You know everything there is to know about me and I know nothing of You? Oh sure, I know *about* You. I know the stories. But I don't know You as You know me. I can't see You. I can't talk with You. I can't watch Your expression. All the ways humans communicate to build trust and intimacy between one another don't apply. I put the book down and stare out the window at nothing in particular. The silence ticks by and, being the restless human that I am, my attention wanders. I think of times past and some present. I think of the time when he looked at me and said, "I love you and if I could I would give you the moon". But he didn't need to. Because You had already given me the



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moon. I asked "shall we dance". And he replied, "I would if I could" and I realized he didn't need to because I could dance with You. I could dance with the trees and keep rhythm as they swayed in Your breezes. I asked, "Shall we sing?" And he replied, "I would if I could". I realized he didn't need to sing with me because I sing with You and all of the birds in the sky. My family tells me they will love me forever but, I know that You will love me for eternity. And then it occurs to me that YOU diverted my attention. You stirred my thoughts so that I would understand You do these things for me each and every day. I see You in the moon and the stars and the trees and the animals. I hear You in the wind and in the song of the birds. I feel You in the warmth of the sun and the cool of the evening. I see Your expression in the faces of friends and strangers alike. Your love is here with me every day. You loved me before, You love me now and You'll love me tomorrow and I know my question is not how do I build an intimate relationship with You but how do I see past the limitations of my humanness and accept the intimacy that already exists.

Recipe Box

Submitted by Evelyn Allen

Orange Cream Cheesecake

CRUST Yield: 10-12 Servings

2 cups graham cracker crumbs
1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
1 teaspoon grated orange peel
½ cup butter or margarine, melted

FILLING

1 package (3 ounces) orange gelatin
3 packages (8 ounces each) cream cheese, softened
1 ¼ cups sugar
1 can (5 ounces) evaporated milk
1 teaspoon lemon juice
1/3 cup orange juice concentrate
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
1 carton (8 ounces) frozen whipped topping, thawed

TOPPING

2 cups whipped topping
¼ cup sugar

Combine the cracker crumbs, cinnamon, orange peel and butter. Press onto the bottom of a greased 10-inch spring-form pan. Refrigerate for at least 30 minutes

Prepare gelatin according to package directions. Set aside ½ cup at room temperature. Chill remaining gelatin until slightly thickened, about, 80 minutes.

Meanwhile, in a mixing bowl, beat the cream cheese and sugar for 2 minutes. Gradually beat in the milk and lemon juice. Beat on medium-high speed 2 minutes longer. Gradually beat in the orange juice concentrate, vanilla and room-temperature gelatin. Fold in the whipped topping. Pour over prepared crust.

In a mixing bowl, beat whipped topping and sugar. Beat in refrigerated gelatin (mixture will be thin). Chill for 30 minutes. Gently spoon over filling (pan will be full). Refrigerate for 8 hours or overnight. Garnish with lemon slices, orange peel strips, kumquats and lemon balm if desired.



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Holiday Slaw

1 lb. pre-packaged Brocco Slaw
2/3 cup raisins
3/4 - 1 cup broken walnuts or pecans
1 large red delicious apple, chopped
1 cup poppy seed dressing

Combine all ingredients in a large bowl. Mix well. Best if prepared ahead of time and refrigerated until serving.




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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><i>Note* Every Sunday</i> 9:00 ARISE 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship</p>	<p>1 Easter Monday 7:00 Deacon's Meeting OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p>2 6:30 Youth Committee Meeting</p>	<p>3 <i>Note* Every Wed</i> 6:30 Mission Sparks 6:30 Mission Friends 6:30 Adult Bible Study</p>	<p>4 7:00 MCC Meeting</p>	5	6
<p>7 8:00 Brotherhood Breakfast</p>	<p>8 Holocaust Remembrance Day 5:45 Children's Committee Meeting 7:00 Rosa Liipfert Circle Meeting</p>	<p>9 7:00 WHM Meeting Bryce Sneed Birthday</p>	10	<p>11 7:00 Grief Comfort Ministry Meeting</p>	12	13
14	15	<p>16 12PM Prime Time Luncheon</p>	17	18	19	20
<p>21 7:00 Quarterly Business Meeting Children/Youth Sunday</p>	<p>22 Earth Day </p>	23	<p>24 Naomi Humphrey Birthday</p>	25	26	27
28	29	30				



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