

The Church Organ

April 2010/Volume 16 No. 4



From Your Pastor's Pen

Love from the Beginning

"This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us."

(1 John 3:16)

At the dawn of history when God created the heavens and the earth and all that were in them, all was created perfectly. The earth and all God placed on this earth were perfect in the creation and God himself noted that "it was very good" (Gen. 1:31). Of course, if it came from the hand of God, how could it be anything less than very good?

The Scriptures tell us that God planted a beautiful garden on the earth and caused every kind of tree to grow there that was both pleasing to the eye and good for food. Into this wonderful paradise, God placed the newly formed man and the bride he had take and fashioned from his side. Everything was perfect; just perfect. How could anything go wrong in such a setting? God had provided for all the needs of all his creation.

Perfect though it was, somehow the couple he had placed in that setting found reason to want

more. Becoming disobedient, they ate of the only tree from which God had forbidden them to partake. And immediately everything had changed, and the world was plunged into defilement and pain. Their choice on that fateful day has affected every life that has come into the world since.

That choice damaged and broke the special relationship that the Creator God had with his creation. Being absolutely pure and separate from all that defiled, he would no longer be able to walk with and commune with his creation as he once had. Now he must find another way so that he could bring his precious creation back to himself and purify a people for his own sake.

And that is the story that unfolds throughout the remainder of Scripture; God would make a way back. Those who were created in his image would be redeemed and cleansed so that the absolutely holy and just God could once again be among his people and remain undefiled. But how would this occur? How could he cleanse his fallen race?

There would be only one way that he could accomplish so great a deliverance and remain true to himself. He would himself come in the form of man, being born of a woman and experiencing life as a man, and living as man was meant to live from the beginning in the freedom and liberty from all defilement. As the second Adam,

he would come to set right all that the first Adam had corrupted through his willfulness and disobedience. He would walk in perfect obedience to the Father and, in obedience to him, would come for the express purpose "to save his people from their sins" (Mat. 1:21).

To accomplish this grand feat on behalf of his people would mean that he would have to both lay down his life for the sins of the sinners and would have to rise again unto life, demonstrating that his death accomplished all that was needed. And that is exactly what he did according to the Scriptures. Paul wrote, "*What I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, and that he appeared to Peter, and then the Twelve...to more than five hundred of the brothers at the same time...*" (1 Cor. 15:3-6).

As we draw near the Easter season, we are fully reminded of these things. The events of Good Friday remind us of the serious consequences of our sins, as well as the everlasting love of the Father. This day commemorates what the verse at the head of this article states. Contrary to popular belief, no one took Jesus' life. He laid it down of his own free will (cf. John 10:18). It was because "*We all like sheep have gone*

(Continued on the back page.)



Branches on the Oak Lake Family Tree

Recently I spent part of an evening with some of the newest members of Oak Lake. It was fun visiting with Youn Doh Ha and his wife, Sue Kang. Have you noticed that they have a cute little 2-year-old daughter named Jessica?

Youn Doh and Sue are from South Korea. Youn Doh is a post-doctoral research associate in engineering mechanics at UNL. This is also the same area in which he holds his PhD. Their daughter, Jessica, is attending preschool classes at a Montessori School. During these mornings, Sue, who is a stay-at-home mom, is taking English classes at Southeast Community College. These experiences are helping this family receive a first hand look at American culture.

Youn Doh and Sue have been in Lincoln and the United States for about a year and a half. Youn Doh was invited to come and visit Oak Lake by Wenke Hu. These men both work in the same department at UNL. So last September, Youn Doh and Sue came to see what church life was like here at Oak Lake.

It was very enlightening to learn from them that much of Korean culture mirrors that of the US. Their school system is set up much like ours is here. Both Youn Doh and Sue attended school in Seoul, Korea while growing up. Later, they went to the university there. Youn Doh's focus was on engineering mechanics, while Sue graduated with a degree in preschool education.

Youn Doh and Sue met through a mutual friend and dated for about 6 years. They married January 20, 2007 while Youn Doh was completing the last year of his doctoral program. They came to Lincoln when Jessica was only a few months old.

Youn Doh grew up in a Christian family and went to a Presbyterian church. When he was about 15 years old, he became more serious about God and realized that he needed a Savior. Sue had friends who invited her to go to church with them. This started when she was 7 years old. She started attending church more during her teenage years and realized her need of Christ. During the time she and Youn Doh dated, they went regularly with Youn Doh and his family to church.



One thing Sue and Youn Doh do in their free time is to stay in touch with their families. I learned from them that Korean families and friends have very close relationships. So Youn Do and Sue talk often on the phone and sometimes webcams on the internet to stay in touch with their parents.

Both Youn Doh and Sue enjoy getting together with Korean friends here in Lincoln. There are many other Korean students, their spouses and children here in Lincoln. Sue enjoys shopping and surfing the internet. Youn Doh enjoys exercising and working out.

Both Youn Doh and Sue say that Psalms 23:1-3 is one of their favorite passages of Scripture. This passage says, "The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not be in want. He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters, he restores my soul."

April 2010

Oak Lake Evangelical Free Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																											
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<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;">4</p> <p>Easter Breakfast 8:30 AM</p> <p>Easter Service 10:00 AM</p> <p>No Evening Service</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;">5</p> <p>Elders' Meeting 6:15 PM</p> <p>Youn Doh Ha</p> <p>Mary Luber</p> <p>Dale & Mary Luber - 1986</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;">6</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;">7</p> <p>AWANA 6:55 PM</p> <p>ELL 7:00 PM</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;">8</p> <p>Investigative Bible Study 1:15 PM</p> <p>Food Distribution 3:00 PM</p> <p>Layne Krahn</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;">9</p> <p>Men's Bible Study 6:30 AM</p> <p>Phares' Small Group (Acts) 7:00 PM</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;">10</p> <p>Music & Worship Committee Meeting 8:30 AM</p> <p>Emma Masten</p> <p>Barry & Connie Masten - 1971</p>																																																																																											
<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;">11</p> <p>Floyd Warren</p> <p>Ed & Dorothy Oliver - 1948</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;">12</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;">13</p> <p>Ladies' Bible Study 9:00 AM</p> <p>Community Crops Class 7:30 PM</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;">14</p> <p>AWANA 6:55 PM</p> <p>ELL 7:00 PM</p> <p>Jada Masten</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;">15</p> <p>Investigative Bible Study 1:15 PM</p> <p>Food Distribution 3:00 PM</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;">16</p> <p>Men's Bible Study 6:30 AM</p> <p>ELL Staff & Student Party 6:30 PM</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;">17</p> <p>Christian Education Meeting 10:00 AM</p> <p>Tammy Rosecrans</p>																																																																																											
<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;">18</p> <p>Alice Baden</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;">19</p> <p>Elders' Meeting 6:15 PM</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;">20</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;">21</p> <p>AWANA 6:55 PM</p> <p>ELL 7:00 PM</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;">22</p> <p>Investigative Bible Study 1:15 PM</p> <p>Food Distribution 3:00 PM</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;">23</p> <p>Men's Bible Study 6:30 AM</p> <p>Phares' Small Group (Acts) 7:00 PM</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;">24</p> <p>Spring Work Day 9:00 AM</p>																																																																																											
<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;">25</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;">26</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;">27</p> <p>Ladies' Bible Study 9:00 AM</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;">28</p> <p>AWANA 6:55 PM</p> <p>ELL 7:00 PM</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;">29</p> <p>Investigative Bible Study 1:15 PM</p> <p>Food Distribution 3:00 PM</p> <p>Linda Neil</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;">30</p> <p>Men's Bible Study 6:30 AM</p> <p>Wenke Hu & Janine Shan - 2008</p>																																																																																												

Oak Lake Activities

Easter Week Celebration

In the Christian calendar, it seems as though Christmas has always taken the primary place. Everyone loves to celebrate Christmas with the coming of Baby Jesus. But all too often it is forgotten that the reason Jesus came into the world was so that he could lay down his life and redeem mankind, reconciling men to God.

Therefore, this Easter season we want to celebrate in a more focused way the purpose for the coming of our Lord into the world. We will begin this focus as we celebrate the coming King on Palm Sunday, March 28.

Then, we will continue to focus as we celebrate for the first time, at least in recent history, the events of Good Friday. Therefore, on Friday, April 2 at 6:30 PM, we will remember the sacrifice of our Lord through a time of Scripture reading, song (Adult Choir), congregational response, message and the Lord's Table. All through this evening we will be aware of the seriousness and necessity of Jesus' death, the laying down of his life for us.

Then, on Sunday morning, we will joyfully celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord to life, conquering once for all both sin and death. As we have for so many years, we will meet together for breakfast, served here at the Church from 8:30-9:30 AM. The morning celebration of Christ's Resurrection through worship in praise, Scripture and Message will begin promptly at 10:00 (there will be no Sunday School or Children's Church). May the Lord be praised through these special events.

Friday - 6:30 PM Good Friday Service

Sunday:
 8:30-9:30 AM Breakfast
 10:00 AM Worship

Oak Lake Digest

The Resurrection

Luke 24:1-35

By Jim Hart

The April word puzzle can be enjoyed by adults or children.

	A	A	L	I	V	A											
	G	L	O	R	Y	A											
	J	I	I	A	N	D											
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B	R	Y	A	N	B	B	O	W	E	D	B	Y	R	A	N	E	S
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	P	N	J	I	M	M											
ALIVE	P	R	G	E	R	E	M	A	R	Y							
AMAZED	E	A	R	E	O	R											
ANGELS	A	I	L	L	L												
APPEARED	R	S	S	I	L	S											
BODY	E	E	E	G	E	S											
BOWED	D	D	N	H	D	P											
GLORY	T	I	M	B	O	I											
LIGHTNING	T	O	M	O	O	C											
LINEN	T	O	O	M	M	E											
LORD JESUS	T	M	E	R	R	S											
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Solution to "The Resurrection" can be found on the back page.

Have you enjoyed working these puzzles or do you have any suggestions? If so please let Cheri or any Pastor know. Jim would enjoy hearing our feed back about them!

(Continued on back page.)

(Pastor's Pen continued.)

astray, each of us has turned to his own way" that "the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all" (Isa. 53:6). It was the darkest day in human history as the sinless Son of God took upon himself the iniquities of all of us. To the outside observer, it must have looked as though sin had won the final victory.

But to the praise of God, death could not hold him in the grave! And although the religious elite of Jesus day had posted a guard to keep him in the tomb, he who had died for all was raised to life and those who were set to guard against it "became like dead men" themselves for fear (Mat. 28:4). What had appeared to be man's greatest defeat on Friday, was turned into God's greatest triumph on Sunday!

Therefore, we are called to believe on him for our salvation and the forgiveness of sins. And then we are called to walk in the likeness of our Savior who laid down his life for us; "we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers." That is the message of Easter. God has given us life so that we by taking the way of the cross might lay down our own lives for our brothers and His glory. Let us live in the joy and the thrill of the resurrection life in Christ!

Happy Resurrection Day!!! --Pastor Dale

(Digest continued.)

"Letters to God" A New Movie to Bring Comfort?

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction so that we will be able to comfort those who are in any affliction with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God. For just as the sufferings of Christ are ours in abundance, so also our comfort is abundant through Christ.

(II Corinthians 1:3-5)

The makers of "Facing the Giants" and "Fireproof" are set to release another movie on April 9th, 2010 called "Letters to God". Dale, Caroline, Julie and I went to preview this movie since they are recruiting churches to promote it. They also offer resources to make it an outreach

effort by local churches. We would like you to know our thoughts on the movie to help you be more informed about how this effort by the church at large can benefit our local ministry on behalf of Christ our Comforter.

The movie presents God as our hope in the case of this true story about a family that lives through the suffering that cancer brings into their lives. All in the audience that night raised their hands when asked if cancer has touch their lives in a personal way including Dale and Caroline, Julie and I. The movie definitely stirred the emotional pain brought into our lives by this difficult disease. We saw the movie as a key to open hearts affected by cancer but not as a resource that answers all the questions that need to be answered when facing cancer and, a common result of cancer, death. We want to encourage Christians and non-Christians to see the movie, but we feel the ministry of the church has been and should continue to be to minister to those who find themselves facing suffering and trials due to cancer or any other affliction, as the apostle Paul states in the passage above. It is our charge, or mission, given to us by God to present the good news of Christ in its entirety as God has equipped us to do. This is something that a film can only do in part, but the church is equipped to do completely in Christ. If this is an area where you need comfort or would like to minister comfort to others, please contact Pastor Bryan or Dale and let us know how we can help you; and take your hanky to the movie!

---Pastor Bryan

Solution to "The Resurrection" Word Puzzle

