

FROM THE PASTOR



MUSTARD SEED
CALVARY
LUTHERAN

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Last month I wrote of how atheism sees itself as the pinnacle of intellectual achievement when in reality it is mired in self contradiction and thus requires great and irrational faith to accept. This month I would like to briefly address one of the primary pillars of that atheistic faith, evolutionary theory.

This is a topic on which whole books have been written and so we will not even be able to scratch the surface here. Suffice it to say that the available evidence (fossils, biochemistry, typological forms, etc.) do not prove or require an evolutionary model (by evolutionary model here I am simply mean the belief that living organisms become more complicated over time through a process of mutation and natural selection to the extent that new types, or species, of organisms result). Rather evolutionists start with their model and then gather evidence to demonstrate its truth. This is very human and understandable, and those who use a creationist model do the same thing. It simply demonstrates the weakness of applying the idea of science (testable hypothesis) to a question of history (how things came to be as they are).

Most of us are never going to have the time or desire to read enough on this subject to be certain of what all sides are saying. (although if you have an interest I would recommend the following as a starting point - on the Darwin side *The Origin of Species* by Charles Darwin, anything by Stephen Jay Gould, *The Dragons of Eden* by Carl Sagan, there are many more but those are some of the ones I have read; on the creation side - *Darwin's Black Box* by Michael Behe, *Darwin on Trial* by Phillip Johnson, *The Design Inference* by William Dembski, again a brief selection, but some of the ones I have read and found helpful.) Instead, my concern here is twofold. First, how do we respond if we feel challenged by science on this issue at the level of our faith. Secondly, how do we present to a world dominated by a scientism faith a succinct understanding of this issue.

If you feel your faith is challenged by this issue, take it seriously. If you have the time, willingness, and ability read both sides of the argument. Do not get caught up in the ad hominem attacks (the argument that the people who do not agree with you are stupid, or evil, etc.). Rather simply try and gather facts and presentation from both sides. If your mind is open you will see evolution for the intellectual farce that it is. If such an in

depth study is more than you have time for, then understand this basic idea. The argument is not really about what the evidence shows, but rather in what one puts one's faith. If you do not do the work yourself, you have to either put your faith in what scientists are telling you is fact, or you have to put your faith in scripture. In other words 99% of the people who claim to have a "rational" opinion in favor of evolution, do not. They simply have put their faith in others to have done their thinking for them. As people of faith, we at least admit our faith.

This thinking should also dominate our approach to those in the world who are convinced by evolution. Most of them are not convinced by the facts. They have simply been told it is the truth and so believe. Our objective is to give them enough information to either doubt that false faith, or at least see that it is a faith based decision and not a rational one.

This is an important issue not just because scripture indicates something different than modern science. It is possible to twist scripture enough to make room for evolutionist thinking, at least if the Book of Genesis stood alone. However, the God that one is left with in this "theistic evolution" model is not the God of scripture or reality. He would be a God who does not create perfectly, but rather through death: an imperfect God of trial and error. At least as importantly, it would totally turn upside down our understanding of mankind's place in the world. Because God gave Adam stewardship of the world, his sin led to death in all the world. God did not use death to create Adam. Rather Adam created death by trying to be God. And thousands of years later nothing has changed. When we recognize our sinfulness and God's grace, He overcomes death in us. When we try to be gods we cause death.

The sinful world has always stood against the truth of Christ. The pagan idols have changed from animals made of wood and stone to old animal bones. This has not change the essence of Satan's playbook. He will always try to use the sinful world to convince us that God is not who He says He is. Since the facts are against Satan, he uses every kind of device he can to push people towards false worship. In the face of such strains, we stay true to the one true God, who created everything by speaking it into existence and redeemed it by the Word becoming flesh.

In Christ,
Pastor Joynt

Happy Birthday! BAPTISM



AUGUST

Linda Stange 08/02
 Maggie Fenske 08/05
 Eugene Perman 08/05
 Anthony Thiessen 08/05
 Abigail Yelland 08/08
 Owen Henderson 08/10
 Harry Powell 08/11
 Matthew Joynt 08/13
 Wilbert Stewart 08/13
 Candy Murray 08/16
 Joshua Rankin 08/18
 Mary Atchley 08/20
 Milton Euhus 08/23
 Jim Rochester 08/24
 Emma Stewart 08/24
 Melissa Fairchild 08/26
 Melvin Parker 08/29
 Sue Gibson 08/31


AUGUST

Linda Stange 08/02
 Mary Shoemaker 08/07
 Julie Harris 08/08
 Craig Ehrlich 08/14
 Candy Murray 08/16
 Michael Pray 08/22
 Bonnie Reinertson 08/27
 Anthony Thiessen 08/27
 Milton Euhus 08/28

SEPTEMBER

Rodney Fischer 09/01
 Ira Thiessen 09/01
 Loren Knapp 09/03
 Tamara Hansen 09/05
 Melissa Fairchild 09/08
 Michael Fairchild 09/08
 Emma Stewart 09/10
 Maren Green 09/12
 Chaylen Hildestad 09/16
 Jan Stash 09/25
 Brayleigh Stuebs 09/27
 Nolan Ford 09/28
 April Ehrlich 09/29

SEPTEMBER

Rodney Fischer 09/01
 Whitney Stuebs 09/02
 Loren Knapp 09/03
 Kyle Williams 09/03
 Ragna Bezo 09/05
 April Ehrlich  09/05
 Tamara Hansen 09/05
 Brayleigh Stuebs 09/05
 Thomas Joynt 09/07
 Robert Stash 09/09
 Ella Stewart 09/09
 Nolan Ford 09/11
 Janet Ehrlich 09/13
 Mary Zeigler 09/13
 Donna Fairchild 09/18
 Teri Jo Ford 09/18
 Bonnie Graham 09/20
 Helen Hahn 09/20
 Taylee Stuebs 09/20
 Carrie Kositzke 09/21
 Jan Stash 09/25
 Joanne Williams 09/25

2010 BUDGET



Contributions & Expenses

JUNE 2010

Contributions	\$ 8,004.20
Expenses	\$16,045.53
Building Fund Contrib.	\$ 435.00
Building Principal Contrib.	\$ 450.00
Building Fund Expense	\$

YEAR TO DATE

Contributions	\$45,336.82
Expenses	\$64,907.80
Building Fund Contrib.	\$ 3,680.00
Building Principal Contrib.	\$18,900.00
Building Fund Expense	\$ 4,179.55

OVERALL FUND BALANCES

Building Fund	\$ 2,393.71
LWML	\$ 1,326.79

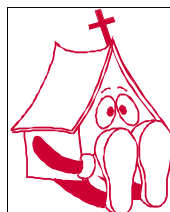
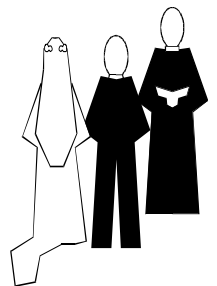
ANNIVERSARIES

AUGUST

Michael & Carrie Kositzke 08/01
 Ray & Dorothy Huter 08/08
 Ted & Arlene Schauer 08/11
 Ralph & Julie Harris 08/16
 James & Sue Gibson 08/18
 Jerry & Beverly Ferguson 08/23

SEPTEMBER

Tony & Donna Spano 09/01
 John & Janet Ehrlich 09/14
 Gilbert & Barbara Wheeler 09/17
 Thomas & Nancy Hoerauf 09/19



BUILDING PROJECT PHASE I LOAN

LCEF Loan

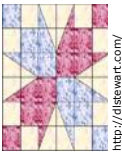

Balance (06/30/2010) \$108,073.01

Principle payment

August 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 09:00 AM-Communion Service 10:30 AM-Bible studies/ Sunday sch.	2 05:15 PM-Pot Luck Dinner 06:00 PM-VBS	3 05:15 PM-Pot Luck Dinner 06:00 PM-VBS	4 11:00 AM-Bible Study 05:15 PM-Pot Luck Dinner 06:00 PM-VBS	5 09:30 AM-Emerald Springs 05:15 PM-Pot Luck Dinner 06:00 PM-VBS	6 05:15 PM-Pot Luck Dinner 06:00 PM-VBS	7 07:30 AM-Bible Study
8 09:00 AM-Communion Service 10:30 AM-Bible studies/ Sunday sch.	9	10	11 11:00 AM-Bible Study 02:00 PM-Worship Committee 7:00pm Adult Information class	12 09:30 AM-Emerald Springs	13 09:00 AM-Elders meeting	14 07:30 AM-Bible Study
15 09:00 AM-Communion Service 10:30 AM-Bible studies/ Sunday sch.	16 Newsletter articles due	17 05:30 PM-Dinner 06:00 PM-Board Meetings 07:00 PM-Council	18 11:00 AM-Bible Study 7:00pm Adult Information class	19 09:30 AM-Emerald Springs	20	21 07:30 AM-Bible Study
22 09:00 AM-Communion Service 10:30 AM-Bible studies/ Sunday sch.	23	24	25 11:00 AM-Bible Study 7:00pm Adult Information class	26 09:30 AM-Emerald Springs	27	28 07:30 AM-Bible Study
29 09:00 AM-Worship 10:30 AM-Bible studies/ Sunday sch.	30	31				

September 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 11:00 AM-Bible Study 7:00pm Adult Information class	2 09:30 AM-Emerald Springs	3 09:00 AM-LWML Quilting 	4 07:30 AM-Bible Study
5 09:00 AM-Communion Service 10:30 AM-Bible studies/ Sunday sch.	6	7	8 11:00 AM-Bible Study 7:00pm Adult Information class 02:00 PM-Worship Committee	9 09:30 AM-Emerald Springs	10 09:00 AM-Elders Meeting	11 07:30 AM-Bible Study
12 09:00 AM-Communion Service 10:30 AM-Bible studies/ Sunday sch. 10:30 AM-Sunday School kickoff	13	14	15 Newsletter articles due 11:00 AM-Bible Study	16 09:30 AM-Emerald Springs	17 09:00 AM-LWML Quilting 	18 07:30 AM-Bible Study
19 09:00 AM-Communion Service 10:30 AM-Bible studies/ Sunday sch.	20	21 05:30 PM-Dinner 06:00 PM-Board Meetings 07:00 PM-Council	22 11:00 AM-Bible Study	23 09:30 AM-Emerald Springs	24	25 07:30 AM-Bible Study
26 09:00 AM-Communion Service 10:30 AM-Bible studies/ Sunday sch.	27	28	29 11:00 AM-Bible Study	30 09:30 AM-Emerald Springs		