

# NEWSLETTER

July  
2009

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## *Jesus is Miraculous*

### **He Has Power Over Death**

*As Jesus approached the town gate, a dead person was being carried out—the only son of his mother, and she was a widow. ... When the Lord saw her, his heart went out to her and he said, “Don’t cry.” Then he went up and touched the coffin, and those carrying it stood still. He said, “Young man, I say to you, get up!” The dead man sat up and began to talk, and Jesus gave him back to his mother (Luke 7:12-15).*



It was a gripping scene. With tears rolling down her cheeks, the widow found just enough strength to walk behind the casket. Her husband had already died. Now she would also have to bury her only son. Friends from the small town gathered around to give her comfort. They were on their way to the graveyard—a place where no one likes to take loved ones. But then this funeral procession came to a halt.

Jesus saw the widow. His heart went out to her. He stepped up to the coffin. With one command, he raised the dead son to life. His heart began to beat again. He sat up. He spoke. He went back to his ecstatic mother. No doubt Jesus had turned the most heart-wrenching scene into a joyous celebration by raising this young man from the dead!

Maybe you have been in a funeral procession like that before, or maybe that time is coming soon. Maybe the funeral procession will be yours. Death is a sad reality for all people. It shows us the severe consequence of sin in our lives. Our God says, “The wages of sin is death” (Romans 6:23). We have all sinned by disobeying our God. Therefore, we will all die. That’s why we’ve had to bury loved ones. That’s why sometimes we are afraid of dying.

But Jesus gives us comfort through his miraculous power. In Luke 7 we hear how he raised this widow’s son from the dead. But he didn’t only raise the widow’s son from the dead; he also rose from the dead. He took all of our sins and all of their guilt and punishment to the cross. He died on that cross to pay the price that God the Father demanded for those sins. But Jesus didn’t stay dead. He rose on Easter morning. He conquered our enemy of death. He has all power over death.

We’ll still attend funerals. But Jesus gives us the promise of life after death. This is his promise to you, “I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die” (John 11:25,26). You can’t find a greater hope. You can’t grasp a greater comfort. Jesus defeated death so that we can live with him in heaven forever where there is no more death. His power over death is surely miraculous!

## CHURCH NEWS

**Jesus Cares Picnic:** The annual Jesus Cares Picnic will be held Thursday, July 2<sup>nd</sup> starting at 4:00pm at Oscar Olson Park. All congregation members are invited to attend or help with this event. Questions, contact Pastor Reichow.

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### **Sermon Series In July:**

We will have a 3 week sermon series on the topic of prayer. Can we take the Lord at his Word, "Ask and it will be given to you?" Come and join us as we discuss this topic.

#### ***"Ask – And Will It Be Given To You?"***

July 12: The Waiting Room

July 19: Listening For An Answer

July 26: Responding To The Lord's Answer

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### **A Reminder To Save Your Aluminum Cans:**

Please remember to bring your cans to have them recycled. You can place them in the bin behind the shed at any time. The money earned from our aluminum cans will go towards various projects at church and our Youth Group Fund.

**Summer Bible School:** Grab your sandals & sunglasses, cameras & snacks because it's **A TICKET TO ADVENTURE**. Come along with us on an adventure as we discover the cities of Damascus, Joppa, Philippi, Malta and Rome. Let's see what happened in these places when the Apostle Paul visited them. Summer Bible School begins on Sunday, August 2<sup>nd</sup> through Thursday, August 6<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 to 8:30pm. Children ages 3 through eighth grade are encouraged to join in the fun. Parents and grandparents are always welcome to spend time here with their children and grandchildren. Watch for registration forms in the narthex.

**Summer Bible School Preparation:** Teachers, helpers and volunteers will meet on Monday, July 13<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm to make preparations for our Summer Bible School.

**Summer Bible School Snacks:** We would appreciate help once again to provide snacks for our Summer Bible School. Healthy snacks would be great. The treats may be store bought or homemade. A sign up sheet will be in the narthex about mid-July. Thank you for your support.

**Flower and Altar Committees:** Please note that the schedule for these committees will be switched for the month of July. Those who were to serve in June will be serving in July. Thank you.

**Financial Updates** will be posted in our Sunday bulletins beginning in July. The current balance for the General, Building, and Mission funds will be listed as well as the amounts (if necessary) still needed to reach our goals. You will find this information under *A Measure of Our Faithfulness* after the attendance numbers.

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## YOUTH NEWS

**Youth Rally:** Four of our youth, Katie Stockman, Alex Siewert, Stephanie Koepf and Brianna Lowden, along with Joyce Koepf, will be going to the Regional Youth Rally in Ames, IA at Iowa State University on July 8<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup>. Your generous support of our youth ministry program is always welcome and appreciated.

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## LADIES AID

Members of the Ladies Aid are reminded of their meeting on Monday, August 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:30PM.

### *Birthdays & Anniversaries*

1 <sup>st</sup>	Jennifer Koenen
7 <sup>th</sup>	Jeffrey Muchow, Blake Schmiege, & Jessica Wills
8 <sup>th</sup>	Michelle Goette and Theresa Siers Mike and Kelly Kettner (14 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary)
9 <sup>th</sup>	Darvin Scherer
11 <sup>th</sup>	Bruce Goette, Ashley Lowden, and Derek Ortloff
12 <sup>th</sup>	Jerome Ehlers Dave and Jael Schmiege (7 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary)
13 <sup>th</sup>	Mitchell Lowden
14 <sup>th</sup>	Ernie and Adeline Longhenry (64 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary)
16 <sup>th</sup>	Emma Michaelis, Joyce Rund and William Rabe
19 <sup>th</sup>	John Glawe
20 <sup>th</sup>	John and Althea Mathwig (24 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary)
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Mariah Goette and Joshua Rabe Darvin and Jenny Scherer (9 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary)
23 <sup>rd</sup>	Daniel Dittmer and Robyn Siewert
26 <sup>th</sup>	Kenneth Ortloff
29 <sup>th</sup>	Barbara Heidemann and Ryan Schuth
30 <sup>th</sup>	Barton Brelje and Erica Garza
31 <sup>st</sup>	Sarah Garza