



Volume 27

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## A message from Pastor Quinn

### Josua Wegelin: On Christ's Ascension I Now Build

One of the important – but often forgotten – festivals of the Christian Year is the Festival of the Ascension. The Ascension of our Lord is celebrated on the Thursday forty days after Easter, the day our risen Lord ascended into heaven before his disciples' eyes after spending time teaching them following his resurrection. This festival is important for a number of reasons. This month we will consider the comfort Christ's ascension brings to us as we look at Josua Wegelin's hymn *On Christ's Ascension I Now Build*.

Josua Wegelin was born in 1604. His father, Johann, was superintendent of the Lutheran college at Augsburg, Germany. Augsburg is an important city in Reformation history as it was the site of the Diet of Augsburg where the Lutheran princes pledged their faithfulness to the gospel by signing the Augsburg Confession, a fine exposition of biblical truth and part of the Lutheran Confessions which we subscribe to today. The younger Wegelin graduated from the University of Tubingen in 1626. After a short stint as pastor at Budweiler he was appointed to serve in the Franciscan Church at Augsburg. However, after only two years he was forced to leave Augsburg because Emperor Ferdinand III enacted an edict which forced all old church lands to be restored to the Catholic Church.

After the Lutheran general Gustavus Adolphus reclaimed Augsburg, Wegelin returned. For three years he served the Franciscan Church and later the Hospital Church of the Holy Ghost. In 1635, because of the 30 Years War, he was once again forced to flee for safety. He ended up serving as a pastor in Hungary and later became a doctor of theology. He died at the young age of 36 in Hungary. During his time

away from Augsburg he kept in touch with his former parishioners by means of his comforting books containing devotions and hymns pointing them to God's word.

An example of this comfort is found in the ascension hymn, *On Christ's Ascension I Now Build* (CW 173). Christ's ascension assures us that, even though we may face trouble and trial while here on earth, our true home is in heaven with our Head and Master. Our ascended Lord so rules and directs all things in history so that we will finally be with him in the place that he has gone to prepare for us. On the Last Day we can be sure that he will come back to take us there. That's the promise of his ascension. What a tremendously important day of the Church Year! It's a day we celebrate all year long as we live in Jesus' victory serving our ascended Lord.

*On Christ's ascension I now build the hope of my ascension.*

*This hope alone has always stilled all doubt and apprehension;*

*For where the head is, there as well I know his members are to dwell*

*When Christ shall come and call them.*

*Since Christ returned to claim his throne, great gifts for me obtaining,*

*My heart shall rest in him alone, No other rest remaining,*

*For where my treasure went before, there all my thought shall ever soar*

*To still their deepest yearning.*

*Oh, grant, dear Lord, this grace to me, recalling your ascension,*

*That I may serve you faithfully, adorning your redemption;*

*And then, when all my days will cease, let me depart*

*in joy and peace*  
*In answer to my pleading. (Christian Worship 173)*

### **Coming up in June**

June 4 Church Inside Cleaning Day  
June 5 8th Grade Graduation  
June 10-12 Camping Trip  
June 12 Pentecost Sunday  
June 19 Father's Day

### **Scripture Readings for June 2011**

#### **June 5 Ascension Sunday**

Genesis 5:21-24  
Psalm 47  
Acts 1:1-11  
Mark 16:14-20

#### **June 12 Pentecost Sunday**

Ezekiel 36:22-28  
Psalm 51b  
Acts 2:1-113  
John 14:23-31

#### **June 19 Trinity Sunday**

Isaiah 6:1-6  
Psalm 150  
Romans 11:33-36  
John 3:1-15

#### **June 26 Trinity 1**

Deuteronomy 6:4-13  
Psalm 78  
1 John 4:16-21  
Luke 16:19-31

**Let me fall into the hands of the LORD, for his mercy is very great, but do not let me fall into the hands of men.**

**1 Chronicles 21:13**

### **Schedule Change for Summertime**

Our worship schedule has changed for the summer months. Our worship services are at 8:00 AM and 10:00 AM. This will continue through Labor Day week-end in September. Then beginning on Sunday, September 12th our Sunday services will go back to the 8:00 AM and 10:45 AM schedule. During the summer at 9:15 we will have Family Sunday School.

### **Birthdays and Anniversaries**

Here are the birthdays and anniversaries for June. If you would like to be included in Good Shepherd's roster, please check with Pam Krueger.

#### **Birthdays in June are:**

June 4 Lisa Ross  
June 4 Guyan Lange  
June 7 Joan Foster  
June 10 Daren Roehl  
June 18 Dana Schwab  
June 19 Nathan Brandt  
June 20 Ben Cummings  
June 20 Paul Farquharson  
June 22 Millie McGinnis

#### **Wedding Anniversaries in June are:**

June 15 Mitch & Deb McGill  
June 17 Ernie & Marianne Perry

### **Our Shut-ins**

Please see your paper copy of the newsletter, or call the church office, for information on our shut-ins.

## It's Camping Time!

Mike and Pam Krueger invite you to  
Join them for a weekend of camping

At

Rifle River State Park

June 10-12, 2011

They have reserved Site 8 in the  
Grousehaven Lake Modern  
Campground

Make your reservations now at  
[www.midnrreservations.com](http://www.midnrreservations.com)  
Or call 1-800-44-PARKS

Sites are \$23.00 per night

## Church Picnic, July 31

Our annual church picnic will be held on Sunday, July 31st here on the church grounds. It will be pot-luck and you are to bring your own table service and lawn chairs as well as a dish to pass. More information will be in the July newsletter and in the church bulletins. Mischael Pitt will be in charge of arrangements this summer.

## Inside Cleaning Day

Saturday, June 4th will be our regular inside church cleaning day beginning at 9 AM. If you can help, it would be much appreciated and the more there are here, the more we can accomplish.

## Graduates

Five students will graduate this year from our LES and will receive their diplomas on Sunday, June 5th.

Hannah Daniel  
David Delu  
Kayla Fournier  
J. B. Pitt  
Tommy Ross

As they continue their education, we wish them God's blessings throughout their high school years.

## The Fourth of July History, Trivia and Facts

Today the Fourth of July means picnics and vacations with little thought given to how it came about or what it cost us to fight a war that would make the Declaration of Independence a reality. Here are some history, trivia and facts as gleaned from the Internet.

- The major objection to being ruled by Britain was **taxation without representation**. The colonists had no say in the decisions of English Parliament.
- In May, 1776 a committee was formed to compose the formal **Declaration of Independence**. Headed by Thomas Jefferson, the committee also included John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, Philip Livingston and Roger Sherman. On June 28, 1776, Thomas Jefferson presented the first draft of the declaration to Congress.
- **Betsy Ross**, according to legend, sewed the first American flag in May or June 1776, as commissioned by the Congressional Committee.
- Independence Day was first celebrated in Philadelphia on July 8, 1776.
- The **Liberty Bell** sounded from the tower of Independence Hall on July 8, 1776, summoning citizens to gather for the first public reading of the Declaration of Independence by Colonel John Nixon.
- On June 14, 1777, the Continental Congress, adopted the national flag. "Resolved: that the flag of the United States be thirteen stripes, alternate red and white; that the union be thirteen stars, white in a blue field, representing a new constellation."
- The first public Fourth of July event at the White House occurred in 1804.
- The first Independence Day celebration west of the Mississippi occurred at Independence Creek and was celebrated by Lewis and Clark in 1805.
- On June 24, 1826, **Thomas Jefferson** sent a letter to Roger C. Weightman, declining an invitation to come to Washington, D.C., to help celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. It was the last letter that Jefferson, who was gravely ill, ever wrote.
- Both Thomas Jefferson and John Adams, died on Independence Day, July 4, 1826.
- In 1941, Congress declared July 4 a federal legal holiday.

- The 56 signers of the Declaration of Independence did not sign at the same time, nor did they sign on July 4, 1776. The official event occurred on **August 2, 1776**, when 50 men signed it. Later that year, five more signed separately and one added his name in a later year. Thomas McKean was the last to sign in January, 1777.

The origin of **Uncle Sam** probably began in 1812, when Samuel Wilson a meat packer who provided meat to the US Army marked the shipments with the initials U.S. Someone joked that the initials stood for "Uncle Sam". This joke eventually led to the idea of Uncle Sam symbolizing the United States government.

**The Great Seal of the United States** was adopted in 1782 and designed by William Barton, a lawyer from Philadelphia and Charles Thompson, Secretary of Congress. The Seal has a bald eagle holding an olive branch in one talon and thirteen arrows in the other talon. The olive branch stands for the desire for peace. The arrows symbolize the ability of the U. S. to defend itself. The Latin words, *E. Pluribus Unum* mean *Out of many, one*, referring to many states forming one union.

## Pregnancy Counseling Center

Good Shepherd's Ladies Guild is sponsoring a clothing and equipment drive for the Pregnancy Counseling Center.

The following items (both new and used if in good condition) will be collected here at church until Father's Day on June 19th.

**Baby clothing** in sizes Premie to 3 Toddler, such as outfits, onesies, socks, bibs, pajamas, sleepers, jackets, snowsuits, hats, etc.

**Maternity clothing**—all sizes

**Baby Supplies**—Children's Bible Story books, Baby Wipes, Large Diapers sizes 3 to 6, lightweight receiving blankets, baby wash, lotion or shampoo, bottles, diaper bags, breast pumps, formula, baby food, etc.

**Baby Equipment**—Pack N Play's (playpens), Cribs without drop sides, Infant and Toddler Car seats (used car seats must be less than 5 years old, see dates stamped on the bottom of seat), Booster seats, Strollers, High chairs, Walkers, Swings, Bassinets, Potty chairs, changing tables, bath tubs, toddler beds, etc.

**Supplies for the Center:** Large (66 quart) clear plastic totes for sorting and storing baby clothes, Electric pencil sharpener, Small Flat screen TV—to mount on wall in waiting room, Large safety pins, and Pencils.

In addition to the regular volunteer positions of counselors, receptionists, and help line volunteers, the PCC is also looking for volunteers to do specific support tasks at the Center:

Could you help with:

- Sorting clothing donations at the Center
- Scheduling appointments for Clients to pick up baby equipment
- Assembling information packets
- Housekeeping tasks—sweeping sidewalks, washing windows, dusting, etc.

Financial gifts—In addition to normal operating expenses, this summer funds are needed to complete repairs to the roof, sidewalk and parking areas.

**Please make check payable to:  
Pregnancy Counseling Center  
916 Gratiot Ave.  
Saginaw, MI 48602**

Please contact the Pregnancy Counseling Center for more information:

[Info-sag@pregnancycounselingcenters.org](mailto:Info-sag@pregnancycounselingcenters.org)  
[www.pregnancycounselingcenters.org](http://www.pregnancycounselingcenters.org)  
(989) 752-7884

**As we have therefore opportunity,  
Let us do good unto all men.  
Galatians 6:10**