



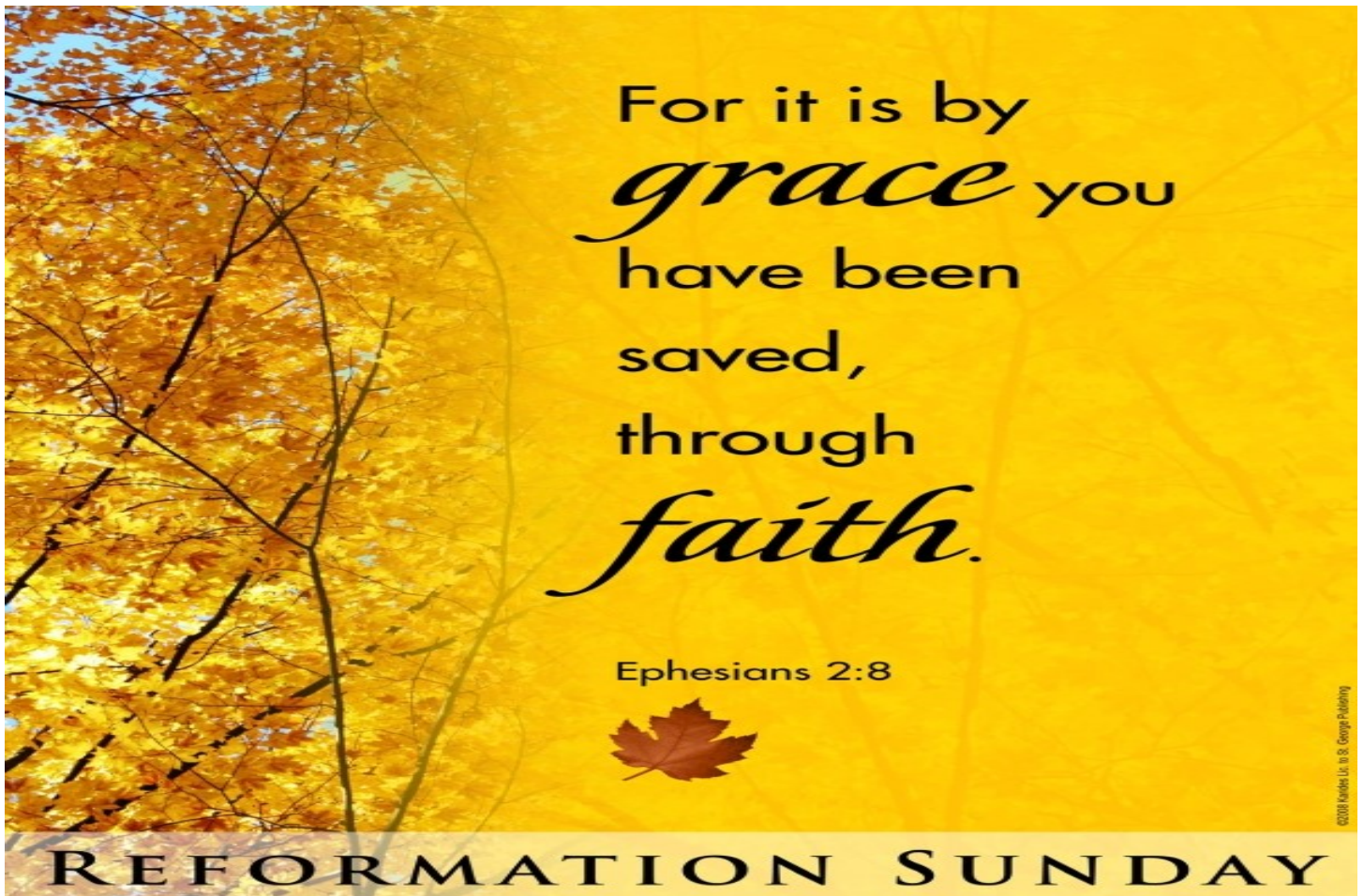
**Newsletter
October 2021**

Rev. Marcel Kohlmeyer,
Pastor

St. John & Immanuel Lutheran Churches Tecumseh / Sterling

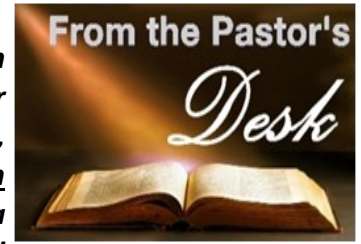
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Why We Cannot Believe in Millions or Billions of Years – Part 2

“Now who is there to harm you if you are zealous for what is good? ¹⁴ But even if you should suffer for righteousness’ sake, you will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled, ¹⁵ but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect, ¹⁶ having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame.” – 1 Peter 3:13-16



Last month I wrote about how we, as Christians, cannot believe in millions or billions of years from a theological perspective. This month, I would like to talk about it from a scientific perspective. I want to make it clear that I am not claiming to be a scientist or expert. But what I am saying is that over the years, I have come across information that has helped to make sense of the debate that is happening in regards to Creation vs. Evolution.

Scientific Method



We hear many today talk about following the science. This has been spoken at nauseum over the past 18 months in regards to COVID-19. **But what is meant by following the science?** Now, when I think, I often think about the “scientific method”, I think about what is diagramed on this chart. **1. Ask a question.** For Sir Isaac Newton, it was probably something like, “Why do apples keep falling off the tree and hitting me on the head.” **2. Do background research.** **3. Construct a hypothesis.** **4. Test with an experiment.** **5. Analyze the results.** Is the hypothesis true or partially true or false. Regardless, you repeat and repeat and repeat

the experiment, perhaps adjusting your hypothesis when needed based on the conclusion of the experiments. Through this method, we (meaning human beings throughout the centuries) have charted the heavens, split the atom, began the industrial revolution and the space age, brought about computers, electrical lights, the internet, etc. You get the point. God has blessed His us with the gifts and abilities to figure these things out and more as more things are continuing to be discovered. This is what I think of when I think of science and I am pretty sure that this is what most people think of when people say, “follow the science.”

From the Pastor

As we ponder this, we soon come to the realization that science cannot answer questions like,

- Is there a God or not?
- Where do we come from?
- How did the universe come into existence?
- Why is there evil in the world?

All of these questions cannot be answered from the Scientific Method. You cannot repeat the creation of the universe. The Big Bang of Evolutionary Theory cannot be repeated nor can it answer the questions above. What we need to realize is that much of what is called science is an interpretation of evidence that exists in the world and seen through the lens of what ever bias a person holds. Let us also be clear that everyone has a bias. You have one and I have one. Our bias is the Word of God. Of that I make no apologies. For others it the theory of Evolution. But when a theory is used to try to answer questions that science is not equipped to answer, it has moved into the arena of religion.

There is a distinction in regards to terminology that can be useful and helpful. **1. Is Observational Science:** *"deals with testing and verifying ideas in the present. Chemistry experiments in a laboratory and the ongoing study of medicine's effectiveness in treating a particular disease are examples of observational science."* **2. Historical Science:** *"involves the interpretation of evidence from the past that now exists in the present. A paleontologist's narrative of a fossilized creature's habits and an astronomer's explanation of a star's formation are examples of historical science."* (Answers in Genesis, Creation Museum Signs, Master Books, Green Forest, 2021). Observational Science is the true science from the Scientific Method while Historical Science is an interpretation of the evidence we see in the world. If we keep this in mind, we can sort through all the misleading interpretations and the false assumption that Evolution is science rather than just a theory. This is why we cannot believe in millions or billions of years because we cannot put our faith in the fallible word of man. Our faith is in the Triune God and in His Word which is inerrant and infallible. And there is no evidence that suggests anything to the contrary.

Peter encourages us to be armed with the truth and be ready to give an answer for the reason for the hope that we have. As a pastor, my prayer is that these articles have helped to equip you for the discussions that you will have with others. There is so much more to learn and more that can be said but as Christians we can see how God's hand is at work in His creation. We may not understand how it all works but there is joy that comes from learning about this beautiful world that God has created and giving praise to Him who has made it all!

Pastor Kohlmeyer

ST. JOHN AND IMMANUEL NEWSLETTER

Hey, Parents...

Parents, please make sure the Church office knows when your graduate is going off to college. We would like to have their address and email to we can keep them in touch with what is going on in Church.

Preschool News

Happy Fall everyone! I can't believe it is already October. Last month we learned about the parts of and life cycle of an apple. We made apple cinnamon playdough for table time and apple pie in a cup that we got to eat for our snack. We have also been very busy learning/reviewing our colors.

This month we will be learning all about fall, community helpers, and nocturnal animals. We will end the month with fun Halloween activities and a party. A visitor will come and talk to us about fire safety. We will also be going to Stone Ridge Farm to paint pumpkins and go on a hayrack ride where we get to feed the cows.

We will be learning the letters H, T, I and U along with the numbers 3-6.

In Jesus time our stories will include Adam & Eve, Noah's Ark, Joseph & his colorful coat, and Jonah and the big fish.

We hope everyone has a blessed month!
Mrs. Walters



Welcome to St . John's Family



Aaron Kinney

Billy, Michelle and Riley
Borrenpohl



Joint Worship / Bible Study



On September 12th, Immanuel and St. John's got together for a Joint Worship and Bible Study. Pastor Kohlmeyer gave a presentation about their trip to the Ark Encounter and the Creation Museum.



St. John's

St. John's had a new roof & altar windows installed in September.





What is Trunk or Treat?

Adults decorate their car trunks and hand out candy. Kids dress in their Halloween costumes and go from car to car collecting candy.

Please invite your friends.
This is free and open to the community!

Lifetime Plan for Giving Workshop

The Lifetime Plan for Giving is a process offered by The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod to assist you in transferring the blessings that God has given to you on to your family and favorite ministries in the most efficient manner. Whether you already have a will or trust in place or would like to prepare these documents, the LCMS Foundation can assist you in reviewing or preparing them to ensure your estate is being transferred in a tax-wise manner, and as you intend it to.

Craig Stirtz, Gift Planning Counselor for the Nebraska District, LCMS Foundation and Concordia University, Nebraska offers educational workshops through congregations, at no cost, thanks to the support of the Nebraska District, LCMS; Concordia University, Nebraska; and the LCMS Foundation. Craig Stirtz has nothing to sell, so you needn't worry about high pressure sales pitches or non-stop future calls. Rather, Craig offers educational information about mistakes people often make in their estate plans. He also provides information on several ways members can make reduced tax gifts for their loved ones and for ministry.

Trinity, Fremont, Tuesday, October 26, 7:00 PM, virtual only. [Click here to sign up.](#)

Zion, Hampton, Sunday, October 31, in person, 11:30 AM. [Click here to sign up.](#)

Christ, Juniata, Wednesday, November 17 at 6:00 PM, in-person. [Click here to sign up.](#)

More information about gift planning is available on our website: <http://www.ndlcms.org/lcms-foundationgift-planning/> Contact Craig Stirtz at 402-616-0312 or craig.stirtz@lfnd.org with your questions about planned giving.

Mission Central News

Plan now to take a group from your congregation out to visit [Mission Central](#) 2 miles east of Mapleton, Iowa to hear from these missionaries. [What in the world is Mission Central? Click here to read about this not normal place.](#)

Visit the Mission Central website to see recordings of some of the most recent "virtual visits" with missionaries: <https://missioncentral.us/calendar/>

October 9, 2021 – Rev. James and Christel Neuendorf – Puerto Rico – 1:00 pm

October 22, 2021, 1:00, [Chelsea Irwin](#), Czech Republic

--2022--

June 18, 2022, 1:00, [Rev. Steve Oliver and family](#), Taiwan

ANNIVERSARIES, BIRTHDAYS, BAPTISMAL BIRTHDAYS & GREETERS

Birthday Celebrations

- 2 Deborah Kohlmeyer
- 3 Petey Pooch
- 4 Cheyenne Gottula,
Galen Bartels
- 12 David Mandery
- 14 Ashley Juilfs
- 17 Michael Borrenpohl
- 24 Ryan Haughton
- 25 Rich Bane
- 30 **Maelynn Saathoff**
- 31 Brent Carmine

Anniversary Celebrations

- 9 **Roxann & Robert Albrecht (45 yrs)**
- 13 Del & Cindy Lierman (42 yrs)
- 25 Steve & Jennifer Bartels (41 yrs)
- 30 Ron & Joyce Rathe (51 yrs)

Baptismal Birthdays

- 1 Pat Bane
- 2 **Sarah Hart, Zach Scamehorn, Michelle Wenzl**
- 3 Brady Haughton
- 5 Blayzen Kress
- 6 Cheryl Bartels
- 9 Kolton Grove, Randy Miller
- 10 Larry Carmine
- 12 Judy Nolte
- 14 **Rachel Buehler**
- 15 Terry Kuhl, Del Lierman
- 18 Marissa Borrenpohl,
Rosie Sugden
- 19 Michael Borrenpohl Jr.
- 20 **Rodger Buehler**
- 21 Deborah Kohlmeyer
- 25 Petey Pooch
- 27 Cliff Lacy
- 29 **William Weyers**

*Immanuel Members in **Bold***

Greeters

- Oct 3 Lowell & Judy Nolte
Ron Boden
- Oct 10 Fred & Petey Pooch
Rick & Joyce Thies
- Oct 17 Ron & Joyce Rathe
Jim Williams
- Oct 24 Eric Moran Family
Sharon Williams
- Oct 31 Schmid Family
Larry & Donna Rathe



MONTHLY SERVANTS OF GOD

St. John's

Altar Guild

Amy Borrenpohl

Elder of the Month

Dave Borrenpohl
(402) 429-5463

Trustee of the Month

Marcus Griess
(402) 209-2283

Immanuel

Flower Committee

Rosie Sugden & Linda Eis

Elder of the Month

Jon Rathz
(402) 866-2142

Acolytes

- Oct 3 Dani Luzders & Treyton Holthus
- Oct 10 Melissa Lowther & Cameron Lowther
- Oct 17 Katelyn Berthe & Isaac Berthe
- Oct 24 Reese McDonald & Cadyn McDonald
- Oct 31 Wesley Schmid & Sophia Schmid

Acolytes

Wyatt Rathz
&
Joselyn Rathz



Pastor office hours: Please call for appointment
Secretary office hours: Monday—Friday: 8:30 am—12:30 pm

OCTOBER 2021

(C) = Services with Holy Communion

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Office: 335-3816 Parsonage: 335-9117					1	2
3 Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost (C) Divine Service [Immanuel] 8:30am Sunday School 9:30 am Adult Bible Study [St. John's] 9:30 am (C) Divine Service [St. John's] 10:30am	4 Quilting (St. John's) 9 - 3	5 Quilting (St. John's) 9 - 3	6 Midweek / Confirmation (St. John's) 4:30 pm Joint Elder's Meeting 8:00 pm (Immanuel)	7 Praise Team Practice 7:00 pm	8 Pastor's Family Day	9
10 Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost Divine Service [Immanuel] 8:30am Sunday School 9:30 am Voter's Meeting [Immanuel] 9:30 am Adult Bible Study [St. John's] 9:30 am Contemporary Service [St. John's] 10:30 am	11 Pastor's Family Day	12 Preschool Chapel 9:00 am Quilting (St. John's) 9 - 3	13 Midweek / Confirmation (St. John's) 4:30 pm Bible Study 7:00 pm (St. John's) Joint Council Meeting 8:30pm (Immanuel)	14 Orphan Grain Train Volunteering (Lincoln) 1:00 - 3:30 Stewardship Meeting (St. John's) 4:00 pm	15 Goracke / Cast Wedding Rehearsal 6:00 pm	16 Goracke / Cast Wedding 4:00 pm
17 Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost (C) Divine Service [Immanuel] 8:30am Sunday School 9:30 am Adult Bible Study [St. John's] 9:30 am (C) Divine Service [St. John's] 10:30am	18 Pastor's Family Day	19 Newsletter Deadline Preschool Chapel 9:00 am Quilting (St. John's) 9 - 3 Priscilla's Meeting 4:00 pm (St. John's)	20 Midweek / Confirmation (St. John's) 4:30 pm Bible Study 7:00 pm (St. John's) Council Meeting 8:00 pm (St. John's)	21 Pastor at Church Worker's Conference 21 & 22	22	23
24 Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost Divine Service [Immanuel] 8:30am Women of Immanuel Meeting 9:30 am Sunday School 9:30 am Adult Bible Study [St. John's] 9:30 am Divine Service [St. John's] 10:30am Voter's Meeting [St. John's] 11:30 am	25 Pastor's Family Day	26 Preschool Chapel 9:00 am Quilting (St. John's) 9 - 3	27 Midweek / Confirmation (St. John's) 4:30 pm Bible Study 7:00 pm (St. John's)	28	29	30
31 Reformation Day (C) Divine Service [Immanuel] 8:30am Sunday School 9:30 am Adult Bible Study [St. John's] 9:30 am (C) Divine Service [St. John's] 10:30am Trunk or Treat [St. John's] 4:30 - 6:30 pm						

**Saint John's Evangelical
Lutheran Church and
Preschool**

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revkohlmeyer@hotmail.com

[YouTube](#)

St. John [Facebook](#)
Immanuel [Facebook](#)

Website: www.2gatherinchrist.org



The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

Address Correction Requested
