

The Trinity Times

April 2015

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Because He Is Risen

The 15th chapter of 1st Corinthians is long – at 58 verses, it is the longest of any in Paul’s epistles by 18 verses. Of course, verse and chapter divisions weren’t part of what he wrote, but they were put there for a reason, and 1st Corinthians 15 records Paul’s mind wandering over aspects of the resurrection.

First we find the facts of the resurrection. *“For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures”* (15:3-4). Of first importance. Get this. If you don’t get this, you don’t get anything. This is the Bible’s equivalent of the football coach holding up a football and saying, *“Gentlemen, this is a football.”* If you don’t start with the resurrection, there is no point to Christianity. Yet some people claim to be Christian while denying the resurrection. I suppose you could play football with a baseball. It would work a lot better than Christianity without the resurrection.

To support his statement, though, Paul names his sources. Jesus appeared to Peter, then the twelve. Then He appeared to more than 500 at the same time; many of whom were alive at the time of his writing. Then He



appeared to James. *“By the way,”* Paul saves for last, *“He appeared to me, too.”* Paul alone might be thought insane or a liar. Five hundred people living far away might be thought a myth. Both together are compelling evidence.

Next we find that the resurrection, just as it is today, was already being challenged. *“How do some among you say there is no resurrection of the dead?”* (15:12). That the some were among them means the some were claiming to be part of the Church. They may have been part of a church, but not of the Church. They were attempting to reduce Christianity to a philosophy. I can hear them saying, *“It’s not the fact that is important, but the idea.”* Because they themselves did not believe in the resurrection they reduced it to something they could believe. They were wrong. The resurrection is not an idea, it is a fact.

Through a series of if/then statements, Paul demonstrates how useless Christianity is without the resurrection. If there is no resurrection, then Jesus is not raised. If Jesus is not raised, our preaching is in vain. If Jesus is not raised, your faith is in vain. If Jesus is not raised, your faith is worthless and you are still in your sins. If Jesus is not raised, go somewhere else and do something else, because Christianity is useless.

Photo of the Month



Knute Hernas and Pastor Broadway will be leading worship again at this year’s Sunrise Service at the Park. Join us this year, Easter Sunday (April 5) at 7 am.

“Our mission is to proclaim the Word of God, leading people to a saving faith and a growing relationship with Jesus Christ.”

“But now Christ has been raised from the dead,” he says in verse 20; and it starts to get fun. Because Jesus has been raised from the dead, we will also be raised from the dead. We have to wait for the end to see exactly what this means, but we can afford to wait, because it is sure. When death is finally defeated, we get to experience real life.

It continues to get better. “But someone will say, ‘How are the dead raised? And with what kind of body do they come?’ You fool!” (15:35-36). Do you really not trust the new body will be good? Do you not believe it will be better? Look at nature. Does anyone ever plant a seed and get just another seed? Or less than a seed? You plant a grain of wheat, you get a stalk containing many grains. You plant a kernel of corn, you get a cornstalk with many ears of corn. And what about the acorn? How foolish.

“So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown a perishable body, it is raised an imperishable body...” (15:42). I think the Apostle was having fun when he wrote these things. This is exciting. I don’t know what all the differences will be between this fragile earthly fall-apart thing I’m walking around in now and the eternal body I will someday wear; but I am confident I will be trading up, and not down.

Next, he speaks of the timing of the resurrection. “Behold, I tell you a mystery; we will not all sleep, but we

will all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet; for the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will all be changed” (15:51-52).

I find this exciting and fun to talk about; the only question is whether it is of practical value. And the answer, of course, is that it is. In fact, that practical value is what Paul found most important, as evidenced by the fact that he mentions it twice: in the first two verses of the chapter, and in the last. “Now I make known to you, brethren, the gospel which I preached to you, which you also received, in which also you stand...” (15:1). “Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your toil is not in vain in the Lord” (15:58).”

Don’t be afraid to stand. Be steadfast. The resurrection is real; your reward is sure, and it is more than worth the cost. This chapter is long, as New Testament chapters go, but it only contains small hints of the prizes of the resurrection. Small as the hints are, it is obvious the rewards are immense. And they are sure. Because Jesus is risen indeed.



Thinking Summer Yet?

Yes, it’s barely spring, but it’s not too early to start thinking. So here are some things to put on your calendar:

Vacation Bible School. (Of course.) Monday to Friday, June 15th—19th. Our theme is ‘Jesus is

My Guide’ and plans are well under way.

Golf Fiasco. June 13th at the Harrington Golf Course, 8 am. Competition, friends, and possible exploding balls are in the offing. Hence, the name.

Cocolalla Summer Camps. July 5th to the 31st. Camp Brochures are

available now.

Spokane Indians Baseball. We are scheduled for Friday, July 17th, for Dollar Family Feast Night.

Baptism Service. The date is yet to be determined, but look for details as the year progresses.



Heart Talk by Mark Smith

Is all this stuff we believe really true, really real? Have you ever had such thoughts?

The world around us can handle a virgin birth at Christmas, even though the concept defies science. Maybe it’s because of the cute little baby that is at the center of the celebration – people coo over cute little babies, you know.

But the Resurrection – the focus of Easter – well, that’s another story. There isn’t any baby there. And the very idea of someone coming back from the dead, especially a death caused by the cruel execution method of crucifixion – well, that’s just too much for a rational person to process and embrace!

If you take Christ’s Resurrection out of Christianity, you don’t have real Christianity anymore. It’s the central event, the source of the believer’s eternal hope and what gives significance and meaning to our lives in the here and now, too.

Read the Book of Acts. Christmas isn’t mentioned in the apostles’ proclamation of the Gospel message – but Easter is, over and over. The Resurrection of Jesus is so vital that it appears the preachers couldn’t wait to get past the fact that Christ died on the cross in order to arrive as soon as possible that He left behind an empty tomb!

Hear Peter’s voice in your sanctified imagination (Acts 2:23-24) – “this Man ... you nailed to a cross by the hands of godless men and put Him to death. And God raised Him up again, putting an end to the agony of death, since it was impossible for Him to be held in its power.”

As a contemporary speaker has put it, “It may be (Good) Friday ... but (Easter) Sunday’s comin’!”

The Apostle Paul put it this way in 1 Corinthians 15, the classic chapter on Christ’s Resurrection and what it means to and for us:

“If Christ has not been raised (from the dead), then our preaching is vain, your faith also is vain” (verse 14).

“And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is worthless; you are still in your sins” (verse 17).

“Then those also who have fallen asleep (died) in Christ have perished (eternally; in other words, there is no life after death and nothing beyond the struggles of this life, which carry no real lasting meaning)” (verse 18).

And then, perhaps one of the most heart-wrenching verses in the New Testament – “If we have only hoped in Christ in this life, we are of all men most to be pitied” (verse 19).

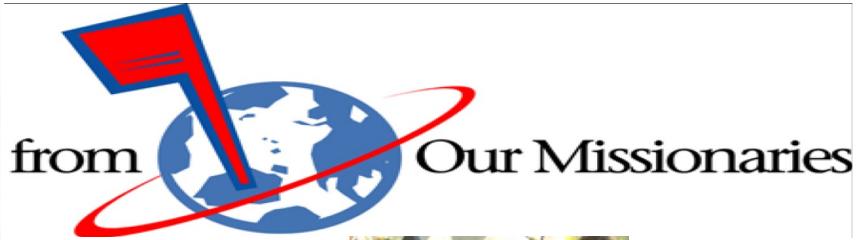
But, as the hymn goes, “it will be worth it all when we see Jesus” at our own physical resurrection from the dead, yet future, but most certain.

That Christ was raised from the dead demonstrates God was satisfied with His payment of the penalty the Creator placed on man’s sin and rebellion against Him. “Christ died for (as our Substitute) our sins,” Paul says in 1 Cor. 15:3-4, “and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day...”

Later in the chapter, Paul insists that without the Resurrection – both Christ’s and our own – we will not be fit for eternity as God requires.

“Flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; nor does the perishable (earth-bound body) inherit the imperishable,” he writes in verse 50. We must – and will – be “changed” (verse 51). “For this perishable must put on the imperishable, and this mortal must put on immortality” (verse 53).

There is our confidence that we have a forever future because Christ has risen!



Hi,
Here is a quick glimpse into Randy's involvement this past summer of 3 weeks in the country of Mozambique. Randy occasionally makes these trips by getting involved in helping those who we have previously had a part in training. Ultimately, this helping, fits in to the NTM Tech Center Purpose statement of "Assisting Church Planting through Training, Equipping & Technical Support". It's an awesome thing to see the gospel going out to so many people around the world and the privilege of having a direct part in it. Thank you for your many ways of partnering with us. We'll be sending a more current update out soon.



Robert & Cindy
McDowall's Prayer
& Praise List

- This is the solar electric system before we updated it. We also rewired a good bit of the house with safer wire.
- This is the solar electric system after it was updated.
- Sometimes we had trouble on the road. It didn't help that the 4x4 has seen better days. We lost fifth gear on the trip. It still doesn't work.
- Fixing a 12 volt submersible pump.
- Working on the vehicle to keep it going..... interesting and eye opening. Found parts finally somebody's back yard.
- Fixing solar panel issues and making sure they were clean and functioning was an important part of the trip.
- More work on vehicles.... inner fender well damage among other things are part of the consequences of bad roads.
- Sometimes its the little things in life that help a missionary the most, like making sure they have running water, refrigeration and some of those things we take for granted.
- Of course, many of the national people still use the river for bathing and laundry.
- We did a lot of wiring on the trip. I am glad my dad was an electrician in his early days and got me started with electrical wiring. The missionaries in remote areas need power for many of the same things that we need it for.
- The roads and bridges there were always interesting.

Thanks for standing with us in all that we do both here at the Missionary Training Center in Missouri and around the world in places like Mozambique,

Randy and Laura Damschen

(Unfortunately, we didn't have room for the pictures that went with these explanations! —the Pic at top is Randy repairing Solar tiles— But if you'd like to see them all, ask the church office for a forward of the email!)

- Wisdom and provision of staff for Cocollalla Summer Camps.
- For many to come to know Jesus as their Savior.
- For God's provision of Pastor Drew and Justina for Lake Roosevelt Bible Church
- For God to provide amply for Sean and Becca Trostrud's (Youth Missionaries) prayer and financial support; and a healthy delivery of their baby in May.
- For God to provide replacement income for our support that has been lost.
- That we would grow in Jesus as we serve Him in ministry.

There are so many things to love about spring. Toward the top of my (Cindy's) list is the return of the birds. The world just seems to bubble to life when the robins begin hunting for worms in the front yard, the blackbirds clamor over one another with their exuberant song, and when the swallows burst on the scene, swooping and diving like little jet airplanes. But by far my most anticipated event each spring is my favorite holiday, Easter; or as some call it, Resurrection Sunday. No other moment in history has impacted the entire human race, nor me personally, as much as the resurrection of Christ from the dead. "He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him."

I have never regretted the decision to receive Jesus as Savior. I promise, neither will you.



(Vicente Reyna, Maria, and their Daughter Lidia.)

Vicente Reyna now has a facebook page; look for him as Vicente Reyna Cardenas. His postings are in Spanish, but the fb translator does an adequate job of giving us the general idea. You can find some of his things reposted on the tbf page, with translations offered by Shilo Cain. Among them, you will find this:

"This is Camp Peniel where our

missionary Vicente Reyna Cardenas and team will be having an evangelistic camp April 2-5. Please pray that hearts are being prepared even now! They expect around 130 people. The pictures are of the team who went up last week to get thing cleaned up and prepared."

There are several pictures of people working hard to get the camp ready. Below is an aerial photo of the camp.



We have recently discovered that Western Union is a quick and safe way to send money to Vicente, and with facebook, we have the privilege of hearing back from him quickly. Some money we just sent arrived in time to help fund the camp.

"Thank God that He has allowed us to plan this wonderful project and thank you all, (Trinity Bible Fellowship), for your prayers! We completely trust our God that it will bless many! God bless you all richly!"

Praise God for Vicente and his 35 years of service at Ebenezer Baptist Church in Los Adobes Village. Pray for more years of fruitful labor. And Pray for next week's Bible Camp!

Elders Report

Tuesday, March 3, 2015 @ 6:00 p.m.

Attendees: Steve McLachlan, Josh McLachlan, Mike Anderson , Knute Hernas, Dion Ricketts

Agenda Items:

Intercessory Prayer:

Previous minutes were reviewed and approved.

Pastor's Report:

- Started physical therapy for rotator cuff & torn bicep.
- Starting a 6 week Bible Study at the Warwick's house in Lincoln.
- Performing a wedding March 20th.
- Plans for Easter are finalized.
- Steve and Josh will be going to an Expository Preaching seminar in the future.
- Will be speaking at Cocolalla Bible Camp for Staff Training in June. Will also be Dean for Teen camp at Cocolalla this summer.
- Vacation Bible School is coming up.
 - Steve and Josh will be coordinating.
 - The first meeting is planned for next Tuesday.
- The Western Union transfer is finally working for Vicente Reyna.
- Steve's health insurance finally functioning. The cost of insurance plus extra for social security tax has been added to his check.
- The Cocolalla Men's Retreat is scheduled for May 15th and 16th.

Youth Pastor's Report:

- The Life Size Game of Life was a success.
- Volunteers that helped were John and Sparky, Robert Abell, Steve, Vance.
- The Youth Leadership kids served at the Valentines Banquet.
- The Youth Leadership Retreat in scheduled for April 10th and 11th.
- There will be a Youth Group Birthday Party @ Wild Walls on March 29th.

Treasurer's Report:

- The wheat donated will be divided with \$5000 going to missions with the rest remaining in the general fund.

Old Business:

- The Bible program LeVance requested has been purchased.
- Ugandan Children's Choir visit has been cancelled.
- This year's Rendezvous planning is in progress. The Committee is being gathered.

New Business:

- The Almira Church's Men's Conference is scheduled for March 27th and 28th.

Next meeting: Tuesday, April 7, 2015 @ 6:00 p.m.

Church Funds

2/28/2015

Benevolence Fund	1,023.08
Missionaries Reserve	2,100.00
Missions Fund	5,951.30
<u>General Fund</u>	<u>16,267.20</u>
Total	\$25,341.58
Building Fund	\$222,628.29
<u>Overall Total</u>	<u>\$247,969.87</u>

Thank you from Life Services

Thank you for your participation in our Sanctity Of Human Life campaign. Your partnership helps provided continued care for unplanned pregnancies.

We look forward to partnering with you next year.

Roxanne Jenkins

Our Baby Bottle contribution: \$2006.79

Easter Services



Join us Friday the 3rd at 7 pm for our Good Friday service, reflecting on Christ's sacrifice on the cross. Then Sunday at 7 am for His victory at the tomb! Friday's service is at TBF; Sunday morning's at the Davenport City Park.

Sunday School and Worship Service are held at the regular schedule on Easter.

Retreat! (s) at Cocolalla

*Youth Leadership Retreat, April 10—11

*Women's Retreat, April 24—26

Scrapbook Retreat, May 8—9

Men's Retreat, May 15—16

Work Days, May 29—30

Staff Training, June 23—26

For more information, go to:

www.clbcamp.org

While you're there, check out summer camp!

*Brochure at church.



by Josh McLachlan

Youth Stuff

"DO YOU BELIEVE?"

What do you want as proof that something "BIG" has happened? Do you want to hold the evidence in your hands? Do you want to see it before you believe it or would you believe your best friend no matter what they told you because it was they who told you? Would you believe your teacher? What about your Parents? Perhaps you are like Thomas, one of Jesus' disciples. Thomas was told by Jesus' other disciple's that they saw Jesus after He rose from the dead. Thomas said "Unless I see the nail marks in His hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe it." (NIV Jn. 20:25) I know sometimes it's tough to believe something without seeing, but that is exactly what Jesus is asking us to do.

Once Thomas finally saw Jesus, of course it was easy for him to believe. Jesus had these words for Thomas:

"Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." (NIV John 20:29)

Think about yourself. Have you seen Jesus? Did Jesus show you His hands and feet, and let you stick your hand in His side? I haven't ever experienced that either. The words that Jesus told Thomas apply to us too. "Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." (NIV John 20:29) That means we are fortunate, and well off. Most people don't get a chance like Thomas. We have to believe without seeing. If we believe, we will have eternal life, and we will be blessed!

Up and coming events:

The MOVIE-

"Do You Believe"?

Cost only \$5! Details to follow.



by Robert Boleneus

Do Over

Dad used to always say about spring field work, "Anything you do before Easter, you will have to do over." It is a "Lyle-ism" that has always been true (as far as I know on this farm anyway), and has helped me to be patient in a spring like this one. I don't like to do my field work "over." Oh, I enjoy field work, but it costs money and time to do it more

than I have too.

The "do over" I like is the one that comes to us via Easter. Because of the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus Christ, we get a clean slate, a do over. Literally, no sin. Literally, new life. The past, sin, now as far away as the East is from the West. Talk about "Do Over." The crucifixion and resurrection mark the ultimate "before and after." *"God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God."* 2



Trinity Bible Fellowship
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Teachers Corner

Cor 5:21.

Think about your life or the lives of others. What was life like before Christ? What was it like after? The cross/Christ makes all the difference. He makes the difference by being sinless and then taking our/my punishment on the cross. Dad was right in many ways; everything will be so much better after Easter/The Cross.

Updates:

There are alternate Sunday School classes. The young couples (and you do not have to be young or a couple to be welcome) are starting a new study called "The Vertical Church" by James MacDonald in the addition, and some women are meeting in the library to study "Living Above Worry and Stress."

Come join-in for interactive learning.

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04-01-2013

APRIL FOOLS!

Prefer to get your Newsletter by email? We can do that! Contact the church office at tbfdavenport@hotmail.com

AWANA IN APRIL!

We are just about done with Awana for this year. I hope you are just about done with your Awana books! After a wild and crazy grand-prix, we all get to take a week off for Spring Break. Make sure you keep studying those verses, so you will be ready to receive your award on May 6th. When you come, bring your family to help celebrate with us!

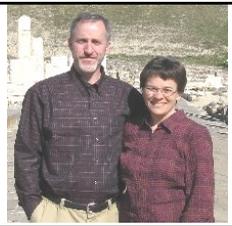
APRIL THEME NIGHTS

- | | |
|----------|--------------------|
| April 1 | Awana Grand Prix |
| April 8 | no Awana |
| April 15 | Good Manners Night |
| April 22 | Wild Tie Night |
| May 6 | Awards Night |

Commander Josh

Missionaries of the Month:
Robert & Cindy McDowall

Serving with
InFaith Ministries



April 2015

Women's Ministry Leader: Kristi Bell
Group Members: Lori Rieth
Becky Oehlwein
Leslea McLachlan
Marie Plasencia
Denise Wollweber



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Awana—Grand Prix 6 pm <i>Kevin Hupp</i>	2 <i>Marie Plasencia Clay Sterner</i>	3 Good Friday Service 7 pm  <i>Dan Shumway</i>	4 <i>Marcia Smith</i>
5 Sunrise Service 7 am 	6 Men's Coffee 8:30 am	7 Elders Meeting 6 pm <i>Jared Regan</i>	8 NO AWANA—SPRING BREAK	9 <i>Jim & Sandy Buchanan</i>	10 Youth Leadership Spring Retreat @ CLBC April 10 & 11 <i>Gideon Downing Maria Reyna</i>	11 <i>Debbie Anderson</i>
12 Youth Group 6:30 pm	13 Men's Coffee 8:30 am Deaconess Meeting 6 pm <i>Michael Cronrath Leslea McLachlan</i>	14 Quarterly Board Meeting 6:30 pm	15 Awana—Good Manners Night 6 pm	16 <i>David Fitzpatrick</i>	17 <i>Terry Anderson</i>	18
19 Brad Cain Speaking Youth Group 6:30 pm	20 Men's Coffee 8:30 am <i>Janice Emery</i>	21 Mission Committee Meeting 6:30 pm	22 Awana—Wild Tie Night 6 pm <i>Samuel Choate</i>	23 Life Services Women Of Compassion 7 pm Turning Point Church	24 Women's Retreat @ CLBC April 24—26	25 <i>Steve Plasencia Lori Rieth</i>
26 Communion/Benevolence Offering Youth Group 6:30 pm <i>Steve & Debbie Beckstrom Robert & Cindy McDowall</i>	27 Men's Coffee 8:30 am	28	29 Awana—Step Up Night 6 pm	30		