

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
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TIOGA, ND 58852
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MARCH 2020

MARCH NEWSLETTER

Danger is Prosperity


It seems hard to imagine that there is a subtle danger lurking in the midst of prosperity. But I am here to tell you there most assuredly is! Think back to the young nation of Israel. Especially during the time in which the book of Judges was written. When the nation of Israel was prosperous and strong, God's people grew prideful and self-reliant. They forgot how it was God who was blessing them. Instead of looking heavenward to praise God during their time of progress and ease, the people often looked to themselves, and lost sight of how it was God who prospered them.

Because of the people's sinful pride, God would remove His hand of protection and blessing from the nation, and allowed the people to understand what their lives would be like if they had to depend only on their own abilities and talents. The results were always the same. The people through their pain and suffering had their eyes opened, and recognized how flawed their belief and thinking had been. The people would repent of their sins, and turn back to God. Then over time God would send a great leader among the nation of Israel to help free the people from their oppressors.

Today as a congregation we find ourselves as recipients of great blessings and prosperity. While we have seen many people come and go over the years, we have been able to maintain a healthy number of members. We have lost many strong Christian men and women to death, but have continued to hold fast with new members joining our fellowship who are strong and committed in their faith. We also see in our midst a healthy mixture of both young and old members. While we need the wisdom often found in the grey and white haired among us, we also need the youthful enthusiasm often found in children, youth, and young adults. When many mainline denominations have struggled to maintain their budget, we have almost finished with a building project that has no debt attached to it!

It would be easy to pat ourselves on the back, and brag a bit to people around us. "Look at what we have done," we could say. But wouldn't that be the same as the nation of Israel during the Judges? May we never in our pride or arrogance claim any credit for the construction, and near completion of our building! May we never take credit for God's great and bountiful provision given by so many people! God moved in the hearts of a family to bless us with the donation of a beautiful piece of land! God is the one that moved in the hearts of many people to bless us with the funds needed to construct our new church building! When asked how much this project cost us, a better response than digging through the numbers to determine a monetary amount would be to simply say that God gave it all.

The last thing I want to do is throw a wet blanket on our joy and celebration of our new building project. We should celebrate and greatly rejoice. But when we celebrate and rejoice, may we recognize that it is God that has provided, and it is God who has met our needs. It is also therefore God alone who is worthy of praise!

Pastor 



Youth News!

Upcoming Events

March 20th - 4:00 - Get Air Trampoline Park, Williston, ND

April 17-19 - FLBC Campus Days, Plymouth, MN

July 19-23 - FLY Beyond, Osceola, WI



Young Adult Bible Study -

Through February we had a great time prepping for the Valentines Banquet and would like to thank everyone who came to enjoy that meal with us! This month we are continuing our study of Acts and looking forward to prepping the Lenten meal on April 1st! We would like to invite everyone who has graduated high school through the age of ~30 to come join us for good fellowship and study! And for those parents who are interested, bring your kids! We have the nursery open and staffed every week!

Youth Group -



In February we had a great time taking a deeper look at Relationships and how they play a role in everyday life for a christian. This month is going to revolve a little more around Lent but we will still be playing games from 8:00 to 9:00 every week after the Lent services! The youth will also be serving the Lenten meal that will happen on March 4th, so come join us for good food, great fellowship, and a terrific service! This month will also be the first month in which I plan a fun little excursion for our Youth that I hope to make a monthly occurrence! This time we will be going to the Get Air trampoline park in Williston! We will leave from the church at 4:00 on March 20th and be back between 8:30 and 9:00 the same day. The park costs about \$25.00 for 2 hours and an additional \$3.00 for the required grip socks.

Campus Days - This is an opportunity for your 9th - 12th grade students to go and visit the Free Lutheran Bible College and see what they have to offer. They will have a good time making new friends, playing games, and eating good food! For more information including a schedule of the weekend, go to flbc.edu/visit.

FLY Beyond - This is the biggest summer getaway that we offer for our students! This is an excellent opportunity to go and experience real training in the life of a christian with a special emphasis on Apologetics. The students get to enjoy a great week of teaching, bible studies, games, food, and fellowship all at the beautiful location of the Association Retreat Center in Osceola, WI. For more information regarding this amazing opportunity, go to <https://www.aflc.org/youth/fly-beyond/>.



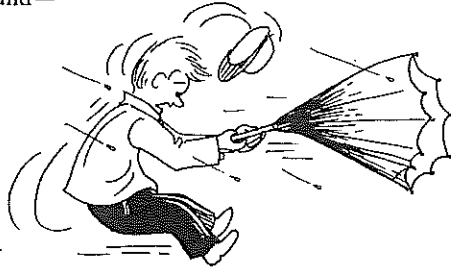
MARCH

March likes to tease and make us think
That spring's around the bend;
The winds are soft and gentle
Like a little lamb and then—
Before we know what's happening
The winds are harsh and cold;
We know that winter's still around—
We are not really fooled.
March is so unpredictable,
It can't make up its mind—
But we need a little patience
And one day we will find
That there are little catkins
On the pussy willow trees;
Spring is just around the corner
And the wind is just a breeze.

—Edna C. Lovelace

"Kites rise highest
against the wind,
not with it."

—Winston Churchill



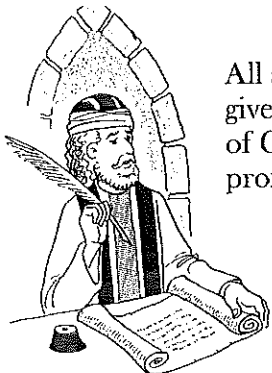
QUOTES OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN

"It is no pleasure to me to triumph over anyone."
"I am always for the man who wishes to work."
"Most people are about as happy as they make up their minds to be."
"No man is poor who has had a Godly mother."
"I am very little inclined on any occasion to say anything, unless I hope to produce some good by it."
"Gold is good in its place, but living, brave, patriotic men are better than gold."
"I have never had a policy. I have simply tried to do what seemed best each day, as each day came."
"Stand with anybody that stands right. Stand with him while he is right, and part with him when he goes wrong."
"Universal idleness would speedily result in universal ruin."
"The Lord prefers common-looking people. That is the reason He makes so many of them."
"I don't think much of a man who is not wiser today than he was yesterday."

SEVEN HUMBLE INSTRUMENTS

Shamgar had an ox-goad,	Samson had a jawbone,
Rahab had a string,	Moses had a rod,
Gideon had a trumpet,	Dorcas had a needle—
David had a sling,	All were used by God.

—Unknown



All scripture is
given by inspiration
of God, and is
profitable...

2 Timothy 3:16

LIFE IS A GIFT

Today before you say an unkind word
think of someone who can't speak.
Before you complain about the taste of your
food think of someone who has nothing to eat.
Before you complain about your husband or
wife think of someone who's crying out to God for a companion.
Today before you complain about life think of someone who
went too early to Heaven.
Before whining about the distance you drive think of someone who walks
the same distance with their feet.
And when you are tired and complain about your job think of the unem-
ployed, the disabled, and those who wish they had your job.
And when depressing thoughts seem to get you down put a smile on your
face and think "I'm alive." —Christian Clippings



THE OLD SNOWSTORM

As I looked out this morning at
The driftin', drivin' snow,
My mind went back in memory to
The days of long ago.

Again I saw the snowbirds as
They flitted here and there
Like their little hearts were happy that
The snow was everywhere.

I saw the milk cows huddled in
The shelter of the shed,
All banked up and covered with
Some deep straw overhead.

I saw the orchard once again.
My, what a pretty sight!
Limbs and branches everywhere
All dressed in snowy white.

I saw the old creek runnin' there
All frozen 'long its edge;
Saw th' white snow drifted 'long
The old row of hedge.

Yes, an' 'long the old hedge-row,
An' near the old hayracks,
In memory I really saw
A lotta rabbit tracks.

I saw my older brother Jim
Out there in th' shed
With th' hammer and a lotta nails
A-fixin' up the sled.

I saw the meadow over there,
All shining, pure and bright;
I don't believe I ever saw
A thing on earth so white.

So, as for fetchin' memories
There's nothin' that I know
That'll bring 'em back prettier than
A real old-fashioned snow.

—Unknown

EMERGENCY BIBLE PHONE NUMBERS

- When in sorrow, call John 14.
 When men fail you, call Psalm 27.
 If you want to be fruitful, call John 15.
 When you have sinned, call Psalm 51:1 & John 1:9.
 When you worry, call Matthew 6:19—34
 When you are in danger, call Psalm 139.
 When your faith needs stirring, call Hebrews 11.
 When you are lonely and fearful, call Psalm 23.
 When you grow bitter and critical, call 1 Corinthians 13.
 When you want joy, read Philippians.
 When you feel down and out, call Romans 8: 1—30
 When you leave home for labor or travel, call Psalm 121.
 When your prayers grow narrow or selfish, call Psalm 67.
 When you want courage for a task, call Joshua 1.
 When you are depressed, call Psalm 27.
 When your pocketbook is empty, call Psalm 37.



GOD'S PROMISE

Fear thou not, for I am with thee,
 I will not forsake my child;
 With my loving arms I'll hold thee
 Though the storm beat long and wild.

Fear thou not, for I am with thee,
 I will lead thee day by day;
 I will give thee strength to follow
 In the straight and narrow way.

Fear thou not, for I am with thee,
 Will be with thee to the end;
 In thy trouble I will comfort
 Better far than earthly friend.

Fear thou not, for I am with thee,
 Though the enemy assail;
 'Whelm thee like a mighty flood
 I, thy Rock, will never fail.

—Louise F. Klink

TRUISMS

1. Prayer is not a "spare wheel" that you pull out when in trouble; it is a "steering wheel" that directs us in the right path throughout life.
2. Do you know why a car's windshield is so large & the rear view mirror is so small? Because our past is not as important as our future. So, look ahead and move.
3. Friendship is like a book. It takes a few seconds to burn, but it takes years to write.
4. All things in life are temporary. If going well, enjoy it, they will not last forever. If going wrong, don't worry, they can't last long either.
5. Old friends are like Gold! New friends are Diamonds! If you get a Diamond, don't forget the Gold! Because to hold a Diamond, you always need a base of Gold!
6. Often when we lose hope and think this is the end, God smiles from above and says, "Relax sweetheart, it's just a bend, not the end!"
7. When God solves your problems; you have faith in His abilities; when God doesn't solve your problems, He has faith in your abilities.
8. A blind person asked a friend: "Can there be anything worse than losing your eye sight?" He replied: "Yes, losing your vision."
9. When you pray for others, God listens to you and blesses them; and sometimes, when you are safe and happy, remember that someone has prayed for you.
10. Worrying does not take away tomorrow's troubles; it takes away today's peace.

ALWAYS FINISH

If a task is once begun,
 Never leave it till it's done.
 Be the labor great or small,
 Do it well or not at all.

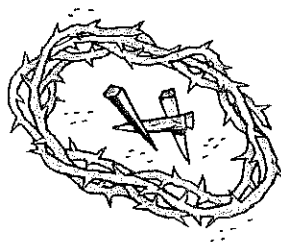
—Anonymous

SEIZE THE MOMENT

Seize the moment before it's gone,
 For another day begins at dawn.
 Embrace the night which brings you rest—
 Awake and know you did your best.
 Fight each fight, and run each race—
 It matters not if you win or place.
 Seize the moment...you'll be blest,
 Then rest assured you passed the test,
 For he who tries can never fail
 When God directs the ship we sail.
 Seize the moment and hold it dear
 And rise by faith above your fear.

—Clay Harrison

I walked with God in the woods one morn, before the rise of sun.
 I talked with Him as to a friend, and He and I were one.
 I told him all that worried me, and my temptations sore.
 He held my hand and whispered low, "My child please grieve no more;
 I understand your heart and mind far better than you do.
 Just lean on me and trust in me, and know that I am true."
 And as He spoke the sun came up in all its glory fair,
 and shone between the shrubs and trees until it found me there.
 It seemed as though within my heart another sun shone bright.
 There was no room for worry now; just room for love and light.
 I left that sacred spot with joy, and ecstasy divine;
 A certain knowledge of God's love, and now sweet peace is mine!



A Prayer in Spring

Oh, give us pleasure in the flowers today;
And give us not to think so far away
As the uncertain harvest; keep us here
All simply in the springing of the year.

Oh, give us pleasure in the orchard white,
Like nothing else by day, like ghosts by night;
And make us happy in the happy bees,
That swarm dilating round the perfect trees.

And make us happy in the daring bird
That suddenly above the bees is heard;
The meteor that thrust in with needle bill,
And off a blossom in mid-air stands still.

For this is love, and nothing else is love,
The which it is reserved for God above
To sanctify to what ends He will,
But which it only needs that we fulfill.

Robert Frost

The Blessings of Spring

There are many blessings,
That each new Spring brings
You can see it bloom about
And hear the song it sings.

With winter's bleakness over,
And brighter days ahead
Comes promises of new life
Springtime loves to spread.

As God unfolds the flowers,
And their buds begin to show
He gives to us the assurance
Grace in our hearts will grow.

He sends us the robin's song,
With the promise to provide
A shelter under His mighty wing
Where in His love we can abide.



He melts the snowy covers,
And sends the refreshing rain
Sprinkling us with His mercies
To heal winter's ache and pain.

God's given to all His Son,
To shed upon us a new light
And the real blessing of Spring...
Is keeping Jesus in our sight!

Deborah Ann Belka

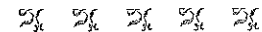
Bless this house, O Lord, we pray.
Make it safe by night and day.
Bless these walls so firm and stout,
Keeping want and trouble out.
Bless the roof and chimney tall,
Let thy peace lie over all.
Bless the doors that they may prove
Ever open to joy and love.
Bless the windows shining bright,
Letting in God's Heavenly light.
Bless the hearth a-blazing there,
With smoke ascending like a prayer.
Bless the people here within...
Keep them pure and free from sin.
Bless us all, that one day, we
May be fit, O Lord, to dwell with Thee.

May there always be work
for your hand to do –
May your purse always hold
a coin or two –
May the sun always shine
on your windowpane –
May a rainbow be certain
to follow each rain –
May the hand of a friend
always be near you –
May God fill your heart
with gladness to cheer you.

SILENT WORSHIP

I sat and gazed in silence
At the azure sky overhead.
In the glory of that moment,
A simple prayer was said.
I thanked God for all the grandeur,
For His beauty everywhere.
I praised the Great Creator
As I sat in silent prayer.
I found an inspiration
And a peace within my soul.
I took the time to worship
And I felt myself made whole.

—Lois Anne Williams



PRAYER FOR THE DAY

Thank You God for this day,
Let me use it wisely.
Thank You for my job,
Let me do it well.
Thank You for the money I earn,
Let me share it with others.
Thank You for my friends,
Let me be worthy of them.
Thank You for my loved ones,
Let me love them truly.
Thank You for the gift of life itself,
Let me live it to the fullest.
Thank You, God, thank You.

—M. E. Baxter

Irish Blessings

Always remember to forget
The things that made you sad.
But never forget to remember
The things that made you glad.
Always remember to forget
The friends that proved untrue.
But never forget to remember
Those that have stuck by you.
Always remember to forget
The troubles that passed away.
But never forget to remember
The blessings that come each day.

May your faith be strong as a mountain wall,
And subtle as the early morning mists.
May you believe that God's power conquers all,
And his love through trouble and pain persists.
May your faith soar like a multi-colored bird,
And shine brighter than the blinding desert sun.
Because you know your prayers are ever heard
And Jesus waits when the final day is done.
And may God bless you,
The Father who rules the starry skies,
The Son who rose from the dead,
And the Spirit who comes in hope.

25 positive things to say to anyone!

1. You inspire me to be a better person.
2. I appreciate you.
3. Your smile makes me smile.
4. I admire your confidence.
5. The way you carry yourself is admirable.
6. Thank-you for being trustworthy.
7. I am proud of you.
8. I love your fierce heart.
9. You're a good listener.
10. You set such a good example.
11. I love your outlook on life.
12. I appreciate your friendship.
13. I love your authenticity.
14. You helped me see my worth.
15. You are enough.
16. You make me feel welcome.
17. You're so kind.
18. Your perspective is refreshing.
19. You bring so much joy to my life.
20. Your happiness is contagious.
21. The world needs more people like you.
22. You're such a great friend.
23. You're so dependable.
24. You're wise beyond your years.
25. You are worthy.

Quotes from Evangelist Billy Graham

(11/7/1918 - 2/21/2018; 99 years old)

"My home is in Heaven. I'm just passing through this world."

"The moment we take our last breath on earth, we take our first in Heaven."

"Without the resurrection, the cross is meaningless."

"The cross shows us the seriousness of our sin – but it also shows us the immeasurable love of God."

"The will of God will not take us where the grace of God cannot sustain us."

"Take one day at a time. Today, after all, is the tomorrow you worried about yesterday."

"God has given us two hands, one to receive with and the other to give with."

"There is nothing wrong with men possessing riches. The wrong comes when riches possess men."

"When wealth is lost, nothing is lost; when health is lost, something is lost; when character is lost, all is lost."

"It is the Holy Spirit's job to convict, God's job to judge and my job to love."

"We are the Bibles the world is reading; we are the creeds the world is needing; we are the sermons the world is heeding."

"I have never known anyone to accept Christ's redemption and later regret it."

"Being a Christian is more than just an instantaneous conversion – it is a daily process whereby you grow to be more and more like Christ."

"The message I preach hasn't changed. Problems have changed, but deep inside man has not changed and the gospel hasn't changed."

"Comfort and prosperity have never enriched the world as much as adversity has."

"Mountaintops are for views and inspiration, but fruit is grown in the valleys."

"Someone asked me recently if I didn't think God was unfair, allowing me to have Parkinson's and other medical problems when I have tried to serve Him faithfully. I replied that I did not see it that way at all. Suffering is part of the human condition, and it comes to us all. The key is how we react to it, either turning away from God in anger and bitterness or growing closer to Him in trust and confidence."

His Smile

Jesus was "Man of Sorrows"
Acquainted with grief was He –
But can it be He never smiled,
Or chatted, pleasantly?

He went to the wedding at Cana
'Twas a happy, joyful affair
And should we think our Master
Was a sad-faced Person there?

He loved the little children
And they came from far and near
To listen to His stories
To whisper in His ear.
He held them close and blessed them,
He made the mothers glad –
And surely, with such kindness
A smile for all He had.

And when my weary footsteps
Have walked that last, long mile,
I'll be watching for my Saviour
And waiting for His smile!

Roy J. Wilkins

WINTER SUNSET

Amid the bleak and dreary scene
That Winter brings to my backyard,
I still find rosy, warming hope
As Winter's sunset I regard.

The vivid pink and scarlet cape
Flung wide across the western sky,
Restores in me the confidence
That even Winter passes by.

God's flawless cycles of the year
Will waken Springtime, come next May;
While roses, sweet, unfold their bloom
My Winter-thoughts get stored away.

—Devin R. Jones




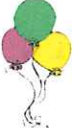




MARCH







MARCH 2020 BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

1 	2 Hudson Heinle	3 David Davidson Chance Roussin Helen Weber	4 Taylor Anderson	5 Kim Thull Naomi Smithberg	6 Paul & Kelli Mattern Scott & Stacey Sundhagen Pastor Rodger Olson	7 Madison Eraas
8 	9 Alexius Knudson Heidi Johnson Grayson Briggs Weisz	10 Joel Landsverk Sarah Buchholz	11 Glenda Lovdahl Nancy Sundhagen Richard Welsch	12 Jenice Davidson	13 Brent Raan Bree Pederson	14 Easton Rehak Gerda Nylander Ronelle Gravgaard Steven Larson
15 Joanne Enger Justin Postovit Orabelle Pederson	16 Michael Osthus 	17 Michaela Moberg	18 Joanne Nelson	19 Ethan Fuson Scott Sundhagen	20 Marge Postovit Sally Iverson Steven Dinolfo	21 Harley Knudson Neal Nelson Marion Raad Monica Sundhagen
22 	23 Chuck Steward	24 Don Knudson	25 Brienne Welsch	26 Harold Sundhagen	27 Shay Rieniets	28
29 Scott Fifer Randall Pederson	30 Jim & Karen Smithberg Tom & Donna Haustveit	31 Thor Rieniets		<i>"Let your light shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven." Matthew 5:16</i>		<i>"Faith doesn't wait for the ship to come in, it rows out to meet it!"</i>



MARCH 2020 ZION ACTIVITIES

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Mission Sunday Offering 9 am Sunday School & Coffee Fellowship 10:30 am Worship Service Noon – New Members Class	2 1 pm Quilters	3	4 5:30 pm Food & Fellowship Meal 5:30 pm Confirmation 6 pm Christian Ed. Meeting 6 pm Choir 7 pm Lenten Service 8 pm Youth Group	5	6	7 
8 Daylight Savings Time Begins! 9 am Sunday School & Coffee Fellowship 10:30 am Worship Service Noon – New Members Class	9 1 pm Quilters	10 7 pm Deacon/Deaconess Meeting 7:30 pm Trustee Meeting 8:15 pm Church Council Mtg.	11 5:30 pm Food & Fellowship Meal 5:30 pm Confirmation 6 pm Choir 7 pm Lenten Service 8 pm Youth Group	12 Zion WMF Circles Meet: Circle 1 – 9:30 am Circle 2 – 2 pm Circle 3 – 7 pm	13	14
15 Building Project Sunday 9 am Sunday School & Coffee Fellowship 10:30 am Worship Service Noon – New Members Class	16 1 pm Quilters	17	18 2 pm Ladies WMF 5:30 pm Food & Fellowship Meal 5:30 pm Confirmation 6 pm Choir 7 pm Lenten Service 8 pm Youth Group	19	20 “SPRING BEGINS!”  Youth Group to “Get Air” Trampoline Park in Williston 4 pm	21
22 9 am Sunday School & Coffee Fellowship 10:30 am Worship Service Noon – New Member’s Class 	23 1 pm Quilters	24	25 5:30 pm Food & Fellowship Meal 5:30 pm Confirmation 6 pm Choir 7 pm Lenten Service 8 pm Youth Group	26	27	28 
29 9 am Sunday School & Coffee Fellowship 10:30 am Worship Service Noon – New Member’s Class	30 1 pm Quilters	31	“If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.” 1 John 1:9			“Prayer combined with love is a mighty force for change.”



RADIO MINISTRY

Anyone who would like to sponsor a Sunday broadcast or contribute to the radio fund in memory of a loved one, please contact the church office, thank you! The radio broadcast is **\$100** per Sunday. Our radio broadcast can be heard on Sundays at noon on AM Radio Station KTGO 1090.

USHERS THIS MONTH

MARCH HEAD USHER: Wilmer Roloff

Cody Knudson

Terry Skalicky

~Special Offering Baskets~

FIRST SUNDAY of each month is Mission Sunday.
THIRD SUNDAY of each month is New Building Project. We will have a basket in the back of the church on these two Sundays for special offering.

If your birthday or anniversary is missing from our Newsletter and you would like to be included, please call the church office

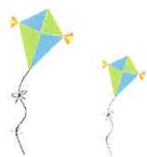
~CLOTHES CLOSET~

HOURS TO SHOP ARE:

MONDAY 2 - 7 P.M.

SATURDAY 9 - 12 NOON

IF YOU HAVE NEW OR GENTLY USED CLOTHES THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO DONATE (PREFERABLY THAT GO WITH THE SEASON WE ARE IN) PLEASE DROP THEM OFF AT THE CHURCH. THANK YOU! VOLUNTEER HELP IS ALWAYS APPRECIATED!



Looking Ahead:



Join us for a Food & Fellowship Meal at 5:30 p.m. & Lent Service at 7 p.m. each Wednesday!

Saturday, May 2nd Women's District Rally, 10 a.m. at Beaver Creek Lutheran Church, Ray, ND

AFLC Annual Conference, June 9 - 12th
at the Association Retreat Center, Osceola, WI

Theme: "Will He Find Faith?" Luke 18:8

AFLC WMF Women's Day, June 9th at the ARC, WI



~New Building Update~



Kitchen cabinets are being installed, stone work is being done, painting has been completed, the sound booth has been built; progress continues to be made on the new church building! We praise God and are so very thankful for all the helpers who volunteer their time and talents with various projects. We love having visitors, come on up and check out the progress! Please pray with us for safety for our workers, wisdom for decisions being made, and continued gifts received to help complete this project, thank you!

Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable his judgments, and his paths beyond tracing out! "Who has known the mind of the Lord? Or who has been his counselor?" "Who has ever given to God, that God should repay him?" For from him and through him and to him are all things. TO HIM BE THE GLORY FOREVER! Amen. Romans 11:33-36

