

# Make Church a Part of Your Life

## WEEKLY SERMONETTE

*"Jesus is Risen!"*

*By Rick Rostek, Pastor, Immanuel Lutheran Church*

Christmas is, as the song goes, "the most wonderful time of the year." Indeed, there is much to like about Christmas: gift giving and receiving, beautiful decorations, family gatherings, etc. For the Christian, Christmas is even more wonderful because it is the celebration of the birth of the world's Savior, Jesus Christ. So there are children's Christmas pageants, special worship services, and all of the wonderful Christmas carols that go along with the Christmas celebration.

However, the real joy of Christmas is found at another time of year, another celebration, one that might not seem so obvious at first. When Jesus died on the cross for the sin of the world, many figured Jesus would just fade into the memories of those who knew Him. That's what a lot of 1st Century religious and government leaders wanted. Jesus had become a real thorn in the side for them, and His death would certainly

relieve that problem. But even those who followed Jesus thought the end had come when He hung there dead on the cross. The women who came to the tomb to anoint His body thought it might have been

stolen. The disciples were locked in a room for fear of the Jews. Even the "rumors" of Jesus' resurrection failed to convince them that Jesus was anything but dead.

Then He showed Himself

to His followers. First to Mary Magdalene at the tomb. Then to some other women along the road. Then also to the disciples. It was true, Jesus was alive. Their teacher and friend had overcome even death and the grave. As the angel at the tomb said, "He is risen!"

So what does resurrection have to do with Christmas? If Jesus had remained in the tomb, it's quite doubtful that His birth would be a worldwide celebration today. As the apostle Paul says, "if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins." Not much to celebrate there.

But Jesus did rise from the dead and has ascended into heaven to rule over all things. Therefore, those who believe in Him are not in their sins but are forgiven and have everlasting life. That's how Easter brings joy to Christmas. We know that the Child who was born is alive, never to die again!

### At the Door

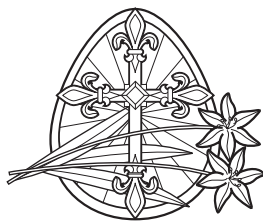
In some homes, it is a tradition to leave your shoes at the door so the traces of the outdoors don't get tracked throughout the house. Floors stay cleaner as slippers or bare feet tread silently about.

This week as you approach your house of worship, prepare your mind for a peaceful and positive experience. Enter God's House with happiness, don't bring the outside in. Leave your cares behind... deposit them at the door.



Sunday Hebrews 5.11 - 6.12	Monday Hebrews 6.13 - 7.10	Tuesday Hebrews 7.11-28	Wednesday Hebrews 8.1-13	Thursday 1 Peter 1.1-25	Friday 1 Peter 2.1-25	Saturday 1 Peter 3.1-22
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Scriptures Selected by The American Bible Society  
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### •PUBLIC NOTICE• IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF JANE E. URBAN, Deceased

Published in The Norton Telegram on Friday, April 17, Friday, April 24, and Friday, May 1, 2009. (3T)  
**IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF NORTON COUNTY, KANSAS**  
In the Matter of the Estate of JANE E. URBAN, Deceased, Case No. 2009-PR-14  
**NOTICE OF HEARING**  
THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:  
You are hereby notified that a Petition has been filed in this Court by Gregory B. Vanover, one of the heirs of Jane E. Urban, deceased, praying that descent be determined of the following described real estate situated in Decatur County, Kansas:  
An undivided one half of the East Half of the Southwest Quarter (E/2 SW/4) and the West 15 acres of the West Half of the Southeast Quarter (W/2 SE/4) of Section Twenty-three (23), Township Four (4) South, Range Twenty-seven (27) West of the Sixth Principal Meridian, Decatur County, Kansas, and all other Kansas real estate owned by decedent at the time of death, and that all such real estate owned by the decedent at the time of death be assigned pursuant to the laws of intestate succession.  
You are required to file your written defenses thereto on or before May 12, 2009, at 9:00 a.m. in the city of Norton in Norton County, Kansas, at which time and place the cause will be heard. Should you fail therein, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon the petition.  
Gregory B. Vanover, Petitioner  
Prepared by:  
Mark C. Whitney, No. 9607  
WHITNEY LAW OFFICE  
112 S. Kansas, P. O. Box 208  
Norton, Ks 67654  
(785) 877-2661  
Attorney for the Petitioner

### •PUBLIC NOTICE• IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF PAULINE SUCHSLAND, Deceased

Published in The Norton Telegram on Friday, April 10, 17, 24, 2009 (3T)  
**IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF NORTON COUNTY, KANSAS PROBATE DIVISION**  
In the Matter of the Estate of PAULINE SUCHSLAND, Deceased Case No. 2009-PR-12  
**NOTICE OF HEARING**  
THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:  
YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a petition has been filed in this Court by Stephen R. Suchsland, as son and one of the heirs of Pauline Suchsland, Deceased, praying for the determination of the descent of the following described real estate:  
An undivided One-half (1/2) interest in and to the Southeast Quarter (SE/4) of Section Twenty-one (21), Township Four (4) South, Range Twenty-four (24) West of the Sixth P.M. in Norton County, Kansas.  
And all other property, real and personal, or interest therein owned by the decedent at the time of death; and you are hereby required to file your written defenses thereto on or before May 4, 2009, at 1:30 o'clock P.M. of said day in said Court, in the City of Norton, in Norton County, Kansas at which time and place said cause will be heard. Should you fail therein, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon said petition.  
Stephen R. Suchsland, Petitioner  
R. Douglas Sebelius, #09157  
SEBELIUS & GRIFFITHS, LLP  
105 South Norton Street  
P.O. Box 10  
Norton, KS 67654-0010  
(785) 877-5143  
Attorneys for Petitioner