



RIVERSIDE CHURCH

JULY/AUGUST 2022 - RIVERSIDE APOSTOLIC LUTHERAN CHURCH - NEWSLETTER

These all died in faith, not having received the things promised, but having seen them and greeted them from afar, and having acknowledged that they were strangers and exiles on the earth. 14 For people who speak thus make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. 15 If they had been thinking of that land from which they had gone out, they would have had opportunity to return. 16 But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared for them a city. – Hebrews 11:13-16 ESV

May God bless you and yours as we finally enter the days of summer. For many people, perhaps especially those with children in school, summer brings with it the opportunity to travel. Maybe it's visiting family in another state. Maybe it's going to see a national park. Attending a family reunion or something else.

Traveling can provide us a picture of life as children of God in this world. In the Old Testament, God called Abram and Sarai (later renamed Abraham and Sarah) to be the parents of His chosen nation. And as part of that calling, He took them on a trip to a new homeland. We can imagine that the journey they took challenged them at times. Travel often requires endurance. Difficulties arise along the way. Where do we stop for a meal? Can't you hold it just a little longer? (Didn't you go the last time we stopped?) Am I hearing/smelling something strange from under the hood? We love it when our travels go smoothly, but we understand that they may not.

So it is with life in this world. We love it when things go smoothly, but should we expect that they always will? Of course not! Additionally, if we think of life in this world like a journey, we are reminded that the final destination is yet to come. When my family takes a vacation, our hearts are not set on the miles that will pass under our tires or the restaurants we'll stop at along the way – our hearts are set on the destination, on the people we'll see and the time we'll get to spend with them. A rough road trip will quickly fade into the background

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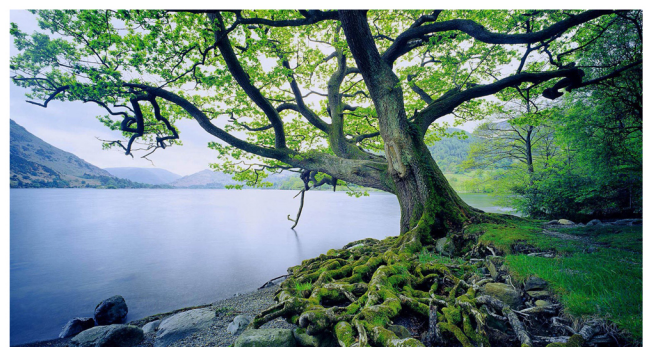
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once we've arrived and hug our hosts. How long do you think it will take for the bumps and bruises of this present life to fade into the background when we arrive at our Father's house in the heavenly city? How long will it take for the pains of this life to fade into the background when we're standing face to face with one who loved us enough to bear the cross for our salvation?

God bless your summer and any travels that may come with it! And as you go, allow the experience of those journeys to give you some perspective as you continue the journey of life in this present age, following after Jesus to our ultimate "home sweet home."

Gods Peace!

Pastor Ray

LOOKING AHEAD

No Sunday school or youth group until this fall

A.L.C. Youth Camp- (August 18th-21st) in Yacolt, WA

Meals on July 10th & August 14th will be at Leslie Groves Park right after church.
Bring your own lunch.

PRAYER REQUESTS

The new babies and their families

Summer plans and travels

He is like a tree
planted by water.

Jeremiah 17:8