

Make Church a Part of Your Life

WEEKLY SERMONETTE

"God's Dust"

By Pastor Rick Rostek, Immanuel Lutheran Church

"...for you are dust, and to dust you shall return" (Genesis 3:19, ESV). Thus the man, and all humanity, was cursed after the Fall in the Garden of Eden. It wasn't supposed to be that way. The Garden was perfect and wonderful, but after a fateful selection of fruit and eyes that were opened to the ways of evil, the world was cursed. For the woman, it meant painful childbirth and a disordered relationship with her husband. For the man, a cursed ground that would not easily yield its fruit thanks to the presence of thorns and thistles.

How does the world today reflect the curse? Consider the marriages that fail. Consider the people "especially women" who live in abusive relationships. Many have simply given up on marriage, preferring instead to live with whomever without any commitment. If it works out, fine. If not, "I'll move on".

Childbirth can still be a harrowing experience. Despite modern

medicine, some women and their children suffer greatly in childbirth, and sadly, some women still die during childbirth.

While today's agricultural practices have lessened the effects of weeds and insects, there is little that can be done for severe drought, floods, hail, or extreme cold. Farming is still difficult work.

We are dust, and like Adam, we will return to the dust of the ground. That's why dust and ashes are often associated with penitence. So this past Wednesday, Ash Wednesday, many Christians gathered to adorn their foreheads with ashes to remind them of what happened in the Garden and of their own sin. But dust and

ashes are also a plea to God for mercy, relief, and forgiveness. We are dust...but we are God's dust.

In the midst of the curses pronounced by God, there was a promise. God said to the serpent, "I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel" (Genesis 3:15, ESV). While childbirth would remain difficult, through childbirth would come a Savior. His road was dark, yet nailed to the cross, He bled and died as the price for salvation.

We are dust, but God has raised us out of the dust and ashes through His Son Jesus Christ. The blood of Christ has washed us clean from the dust of sin and we are new creations. The season of Lent provides an opportunity to shake off the dust through faith in Jesus Christ. Come to Him and believe that He has rescued you from sin. His blood will cleanse you and you will be saved.

Keep on Praying

If goldfish pray, this is the time. If not, let's hope luck is in their fishbowl. It is said that we all live in a fishbowl. Access to personal information is as simple as pushing a button. We read of crime each day; it's not surprising that we feel vulnerable. Luck is seldom an effective deterrent. Are we helpless against evil that is lurking... waiting to pounce?

Help is only a prayer away. As you worship God at His House this week, ask Him to surround you with his mercy and strengthen you with His love. You need not be afraid. Trust God's will...and keep on praying.



Photo Credit: ©iStockphoto.com/mikdam

Weekly Scripture Reading

John 10:1-21	John 10:22-42	Psalms 23	Psalms 51	John 13:1-20	John 13:21-35	John 14:1-31
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Scriptures Selected by the American Bible Society

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PUBLIC NOTICE

• PUBLIC NOTICE • NOTICE OF SUIT

Published in The Norton Telegram on Friday, February 17, 24, and March 2, 2012 3(T)

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF NORTON COUNTY, KANSAS
CIVIL DEPARTMENT

U.S. Bank National Association)
Plaintiff,) Case No. 12CV4
vs.) Court Number:
Eric A. Moul; Victoria Moul;) Pursuant to
John Doe (Tenant/Occupant);) K.S.A.
Mary Doe (Tenant/Occupant);) Chapter 60
Defendants.)

NOTICE OF SUIT

The State Of Kansas, to the above-named defendants and the unknown heirs, executors, administrators, devisees, trustees, creditors and assigns of any deceased defendants; the unknown spouses of any defendants; the unknown officers, successors, trustees, creditors and assigns of any defendants that are existing, dissolved or dormant corporations; the unknown executors, administrators, devisees, trustees, creditors, successors and assigns of any defendants that are or were partners or in partnership; the unknown guardians, conservators and trustees of any defendants that are minors or are under any legal disability; and the unknown heirs, executors, administrators, devisees, trustees, creditors and assigns of any person alleged to be deceased, and all other persons who are or may be concerned.

You are notified that a Petition has been filed in the District Court of Norton County, Kansas, praying to foreclose a real estate mortgage on the following described real estate:

The South Half (S/2) of Lot Three (3) in Block "J" of Hendrick's Addition to the City of Lenora, Norton County, Kansas, commonly known as 440 South Main Street, Lenora, KS 67645 (the "Property")

and all those defendants who have not otherwise been served are required to plead to the Petition on or before the 29th day of March, 2012, in the District Court of Norton County, Kansas. If you fail to plead, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon the Petition.

NOTICE

Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, 15 U.S.C. 1692c(b), no information concerning the collection of this debt may be given without the prior consent of the consumer given directly to the debt collector or the express permission of a court of competent jurisdiction. The debt collector is attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

Prepared By:
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• PUBLIC NOTICE • NOTICE OF HEARING UPON RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH A CEMETERY DISTRICT TO BE KNOWN AS WEST UNION CEMETERY DISTRICT

Published in The Norton Telegram on Friday, February 17 and 24, 2012 (2T)

NOTICE OF HEARING UPON RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH A CEMETERY DISTRICT TO BE KNOWN AS WEST UNION CEMETERY DISTRICT

WHEREAS, a proposal has been made and received by the Board of County Commissioners of Norton County, Kansas, suggesting that the Board exercise its power to create a cemetery district comprised of the following described territory within Norton County, Kansas, to-wit:

Sections One (1) through Thirty-six (36), Township Three (3) South, Range Twenty-two (22) West of the 6th P.M.; Sections One (1) through Twelve (12), Township Four (4) South, Range Twenty-two (22) West of the 6th P.M.; Sections One (1) through Thirty-six (36), Township Four (4) South, Range Twenty-one (21) West of the 6th P.M.; Sections Twenty-five (25), Twenty-six (26), Thirty-five (35) and Thirty-six (36), Township Four (4) South, Range Twenty-two (22) West of the 6th P.M.; Sections One (1) through Thirty-six (36), Township Five (5) South, Range Twenty-one (21) West of the 6th P.M.; and Sections One (1), Two (2), Eleven (11), Twelve (12), Thirteen (13), Fourteen (14), Twenty-three (23), Twenty-four (24), Twenty-five (25), Twenty-six (26), Thirty-five (35) and Thirty-six (36), Township Five (5) South, Range Twenty-two (22) West of the 6th P.M., all in Norton County, Kansas;

to be known as the West Union Cemetery District; and WHEREAS, any cemetery district created pursuant to the action taken by the Board will be governed by and subject to the provisions of K.S.A. 17-1330, et seq., and amendment thereto; and

WHEREAS, a hearing should be held to receive comment and testimony concerning the advisability of the creation of such cemetery district.

TAKE NOTICE, therefore, that a hearing before the Board of County Commissioners shall be held on the 5th day of March, 2012, at 10:00 o'clock a.m. in the Commissioners Chambers, Second Floor, Norton County Courthouse, Norton, Kansas, to determine whether a cemetery district comprised of the above-described lands should be established.

Robert Wyatt, Norton County Clerk