



# The Lighthouse

May 2009

**A newsletter for Hebron's twenty-  
and thirtysomethings**

## Small Group Schedule

(these are open groups- please join any study you wish!)



One thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

-Philippians 3:13-14

**1 Samuel-** Fridays at 7:00 PM, Mark & Melissa Webb's home. (5619 Crestmont Avenue, Verona, 412-798-3184). Led by group members (men & women)

This study focuses on the history and characters behind establishing the line of kings in Israel.

**1st and 2nd Peter-** Sundays at Hebron, 9:30 AM, Room 305, led by Rich DeFazio and Dan Gallagher (men)

Learn more about faith in Christ by studying the letters of the church father and disciple Peter.

**John-** Sundays at Hebron, 9:30 AM, Room 101, led by Steff Knabe, Pam Smith, and Karen Lukas. (women)

Delve into one of the most meaningful books in the New Testament and get to know some other women at Hebron.

**Believing God-** Tuesday nights at Hebron, 6:30 PM, led by Steff Knabe (women)

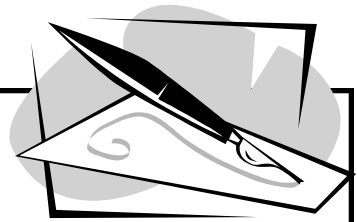
Steff will lead women through Beth Moore's study of the same name. Experience a fresh explosion of your faith!

**Note:** The young adult class on Tuesday nights is on hiatus until May 19.

Submissions are due to [shewski357@yahoo.com](mailto:shewski357@yahoo.com) by the **LAST Monday** of each month.

Questions about the Lighthouse? Want to subscribe?  
Contact Mike at [shewski357@yahoo.com](mailto:shewski357@yahoo.com)

## Mike's Corner



As a very new parent, I am still amazed at Reed's development. Kristy was telling me the other day that it takes a baby three days to develop a habit (I'm sure it was a tidbit from one of our baby books). We have been trying a few things, but one of the biggest things is to establish a bedtime routine.

Ideally, we'd like to change him into PJs, read to him, and then get him in the crib and then pray for him. He's pretty used to his routine now, so I think that baby book was right. What surprises me is how difficult it is for us adults to establish new routines. I can take time to pray for Reed when I put him to bed, albeit briefly, but there are lots of times when I just want to sleep when I go to bed.

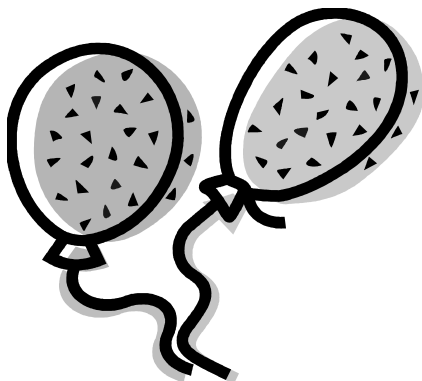
It certainly helps that an outsider (his parents) are making Reed go through his routine, but we have the ultimate Outsider, our heavenly Father, who can change our hearts and will to make us ever more willing to spend time with him. I'm going to try to establish my own bed time routine, and I know with God changing me that it can be done. Remember that as you try to change yourselves to be more like Him.



## Want to see the Lighthouse continue???

If you are interested in taking over as editor in 2010, please email me at [shewski357@yahoo.com](mailto:shewski357@yahoo.com). All that is needed is a love of your fellow Christians, a sense of responsibility, and some sort of publishing software (I use Microsoft Publisher). I don't plan on stepping away completely- I would like to submit content to help make the transition (and your decision) easier.

## We Celebrate...



### Birthdays

01- Mark Shipley  
03- Dean Shorthouse  
07- Elizabeth Bonifield  
07- Robert Patterson  
08- Matt Stolarz  
11- Rod Miner  
12- Clyde Schneider  
14- Mark Zeitler  
15- Doug Keim  
15- Bethany Eberle  
17- Kristin Sanfilippo  
26- Leslie Felker  
30- Jim Auten

### Anniversaries

03- Dean and Terry Zacharias  
13- Hunter and Jacelyn Gray  
17- Kristin and Joseph Sanfilippo  
20- Rod and Leann Miner  
23- Mike and Meghan Passalinqua  
24- Abigail and Kevin Kendall  
25- CJ and Mary Beth Tedrick  
25- Doug and Megan Keim

(if we should be celebrating you this month, and we are not, let me know @ [shewski357@yahoo.com](mailto:shewski357@yahoo.com))

## Heidelberg Catechism- Mike Tomashewski



*Zacharius Ursinus, the main author of the Heidelberg Catechism, was born in Poland in 1534. His given name was Zacharias Baer. "Ursinus" came from the practice of the day for scholars to give themselves a Latin name. Bonus points if you knew that the Latin for "bear" is "Ursus".*

*When he was 15, he enrolled in the University of Wittenberg, and actually roomed with the Reformer Philipp Melancthon, who was mentored by Martin Luther. Melancthon came to admire his roommate for his spiritual wisdom and intellectual talents, and would later recommend him to others throughout Europe. After Wittenberg, Ursinus studied at a variety of places including Strasbourg, Basel, Lausanne, and Geneva. Though this period of time, he also traveled to Orleans and Lyon and acquired an expertise in Hebrew.*

*He returned to his home town of Breslau, and wrote a pamphlet on the sacraments, which arouse the ire of local Lutherans since it adhered to a more Reformed (compared to a Lutheran) view of them. The response was so severe, that he was driven from his home to Zurich, where he became friends with the Italian Reformer Peter Martyr.*

*In 1561, with Martyr's recommendation, Frederick III appointed Ursinus to be a professor at the Collegium Sapientiae in Heidelberg. It was here, in 1563, when he finished the Heidelberg catechism. When Frederick died in 1576, he was removed from his post and became professor at another university until he died in 1583.*

*His legacy, beyond the Catechism, includes a collection of his complete works and a small liberal arts college named after him (coincidentally located in Pennsylvania.)*

### The Holy Spirit

#### LORD'S DAY 20

#### Q. 53. What do you believe concerning "the Holy Spirit"?

A. First, that, with the Father and the Son, he is equally eternal God; second, that God's Spirit is also given to me, preparing me through a true faith to share in Christ and all his benefits, that he comforts me and will abide with me forever.

#### LORD'S DAY 21

#### Q. 54. What do you believe concerning "the Holy Catholic Church"?

A. I believe that, from the beginning to the end of the world, and from among the whole human race, the Son of God, by his Spirit and his Word, gathers, protects, and preserves for himself, in the unity of the true faith, a congregation chosen for eternal life. Moreover, I believe that I am and forever will remain a living member of it.

#### Q. 55. What do you understand by "the communion of saints"?

A. First, that believers one and all, as partakers of the Lord Christ, and all his treasures and gifts, shall share in one fellowship. Second, that each one ought to know that he is obliged to use his gifts freely and with joy for the benefit and welfare of other members.

#### Q. 56. What do you believe concerning "the forgiveness of sins"?

A. That, for the sake of Christ's reconciling work, God will no more remember my sins or the sinfulness with which I have to struggle all my life long; but that he graciously imparts to me the righteousness of Christ so that I may never come into condemnation.

#### LORD'S DAY 22

#### Q. 57. What comfort does "the resurrection of the body" give you?

A. That after this life my soul shall be immediately taken up to Christ, its Head, and that this flesh of mine, raised by the power of Christ, shall be reunited with my soul, and be conformed to the glorious body of Christ.

This is part 21 in a multi-part series that goes over the PC (USA)'s Book of Confessions. This is designed to help us all learn what we Presbyterians believe.

If you missed any of these articles, feel free to email me at [shewski357@yahoo.com](mailto:shewski357@yahoo.com) and I will send you what you are looking for.

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## Heidelberg Catechism- continued

**Q. 58. What comfort does the article concerning “the life everlasting” give you?**

A. That, since I now feel in my heart the beginning of eternal joy, I shall possess, after this life, perfect blessedness, which no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man conceived, and thereby praise God forever.

LORD'S DAY 23

**Q. 59. But how does it help you now that you believe all this?**

A. That I am righteous in Christ before God, and an heir of eternal life.

**Q. 60. How are you righteous before God?**

A. Only by true faith in Jesus Christ. In spite of the fact that my conscience accuses me that I have grievously sinned against all the commandments of God, and have not kept any one of them, and that I am still ever prone to all that is evil, nevertheless, God, without any merit of my own, out of pure grace, grants me the benefits of the perfect expiation of Christ, imputing to me his righteousness and holiness as if I had never committed a single sin or had ever been sinful, having fulfilled myself all the obedience which Christ has carried out for me, if only I accept such favor with a trusting heart.

**Q. 61. Why do you say that you are righteous by faith alone?**

A. Not because I please God by virtue of the worthiness of my faith, but because the satisfaction, righteousness, and holiness of Christ alone are my righteousness before God, and because I can accept it and make it mine in no other way than by faith alone.

LORD'S DAY 24

**Q. 62. But why cannot our good works be our righteousness before God, or at least a part of it?**

A. Because the righteousness which can stand before the judgment of God must be absolutely perfect and wholly in conformity with the divine Law. But even our best works in this life are all imperfect and defiled with sin.

**Q. 63. Will our good works merit nothing, even when it is God's purpose to reward them in this life, and in the future life as well?**

A. This reward is not given because of merit, but out of grace.

**Q. 64. But does not this teaching make people careless and sinful?**

A. No, for it is impossible for those who are ingrafted into Christ by true faith not to bring forth the fruit of gratitude.

## Lighthouse Culture Corner

*The Lighthouse- Bethany Eberle*

O Lord, You are my lighthouse,  
A shelter in the storm;  
Though the darkness does surround me  
You beckon me to follow You home.

For out on this ocean, I have journeyed  
Lost, alone, and terrified,  
But I see Your lighthouse call me  
And You bring me safely to Your side.

Though the wind around me waivers  
And the waters 'round me threat to  
do me in,  
Yet it's through Your light in darkness  
That I see You guiding me to You again.

Lord, You are the lighthouse  
That calls the sailors home.  
Your light pierces through the  
darkness,  
And stills all of this life's storms  
So they see You guide them home.

O Lord, You are a lighthouse  
And I wish that others could see;  
For I've seen their destruction  
When they look for safety in other  
things.

But Lord, I know You are the lighthouse  
For through the foggy bog,  
Your light destroys the fears within  
my soul  
And clears the clouds of every fog.

So Lord, I know that through the  
unknowns  
That this life will come to show,  
That it's only You, the Holy Lighthouse  
That will safely bring me home.

For it's only You, the Holy Lighthouse  
That will safely bring me home.

