



2016.03.27

The LCMS - LDS Connection

XVII/132



2013



2014



My Birthdays

2016



2015



2016



Space Needle



Seattle



Washington



Mt. Rainier - 14,416'

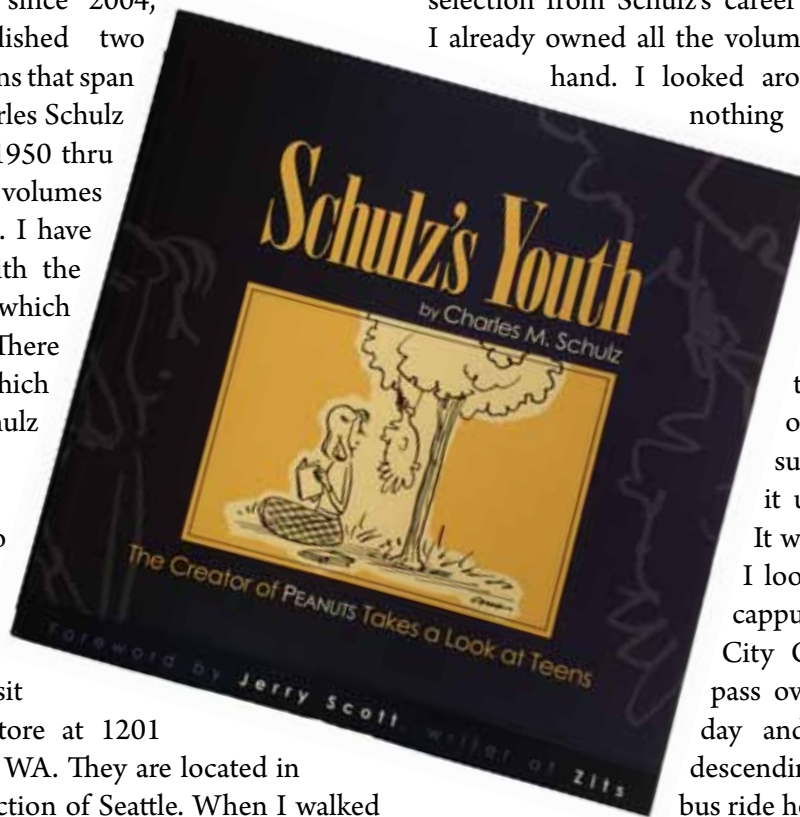
Fantagraphics publishes and sells various compilations of cartoons. Each year since 2004, Fantagraphics has published two volumes of Peanuts cartoons that span two years each. Since Charles Schulz has drawn Peanuts from 1950 thru 2000, that equates to 25 volumes of The Complete Peanuts. I have collected all of them, with the exception of Volume 25, which comes out in May, 2016. There will also be a Volume 26, which will honor Charles Schulz with stories about his life.

Fantagraphics happens to be located in Seattle. Due to my enthusiasm about collecting Peanuts, it was a special treat for me to visit the Fantagraphics Bookstore at 1201 South Vale Street, Seattle, WA. They are located in the industrial southern section of Seattle. When I walked in, I started looking around for something special to buy.

As shown in the middle photo above, they have quite a selection from Schulz's career as a cartoonist. However, I already owned all the volumes of Peanuts they had on hand. I looked around at other things, but nothing caught my fancy. Finally,

after about an hour, I noticed the book Schulz's Youth. It turned out to be a collection of one panel cartoons Schulz drew from 1955 - 1965 for the teenagers in the Church of God. I didn't even know such a book existed! I scarfed it up and paid cash: \$16.39.

It was exactly the special thing I looked for! I celebrated with cappuccino at next door All City Coffee, feeling the breeze pass over me on that rare sunny day and watching the airplanes descending toward landing. On the bus ride home I caught a nice view of Washington's Mt. Ranier. Thanks God!

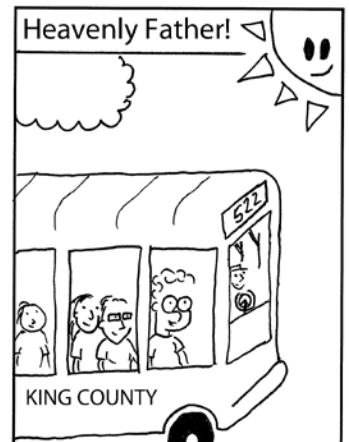
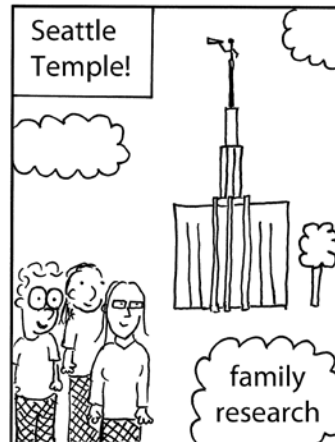


FANTAGRAPHICS BOOKS

toon in'...

On board

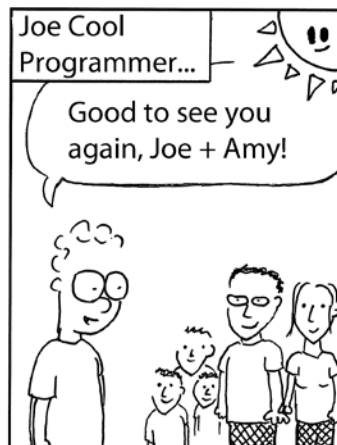
March 13th, 2016



toon in'...

Sister City

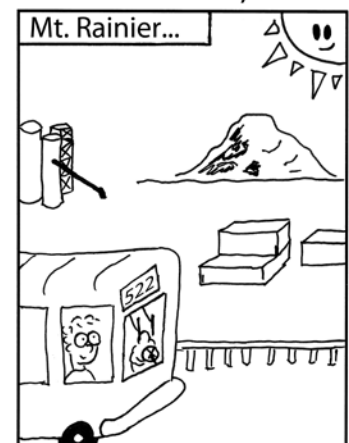
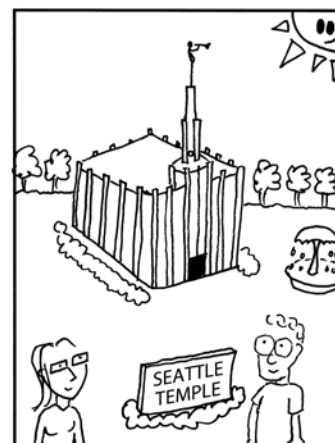
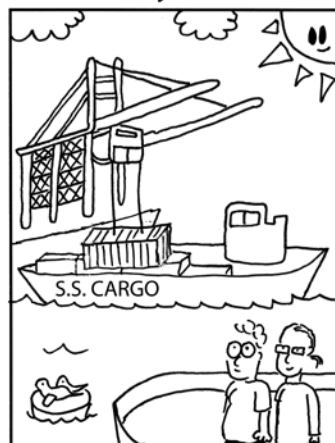
March 13^{1/2}, 2016



toon in'...

Latter Days...

March 26th, 2016



toon in'...

Crazy Antics

March 26^{1/2}, 2016



toon in'...

Habits of the Highly Effective

March 26^{2/3}, 2016



toon in'...

The LCMS - LDS Connection

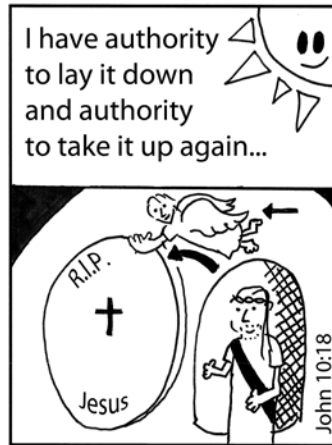
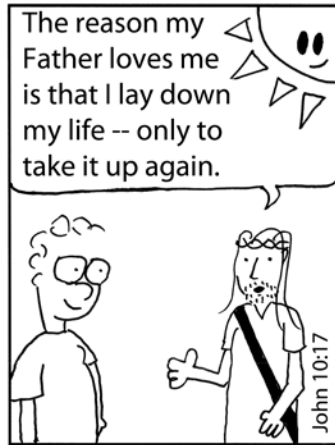
March 26^{3/4}, 2016



toon in'...

The Best Sunday

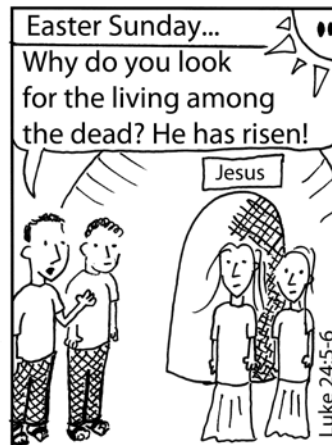
March 26^{4/5}, 2016



toon in'...

The Resurrection!!!

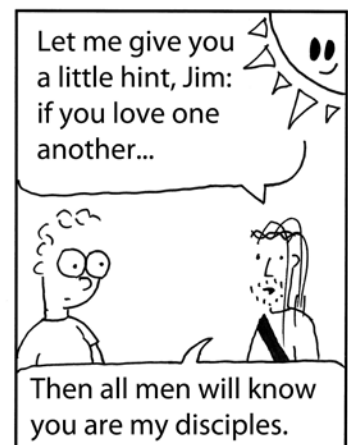
March 26^{5/6}, 2016



toon in'...

The Great Commission...

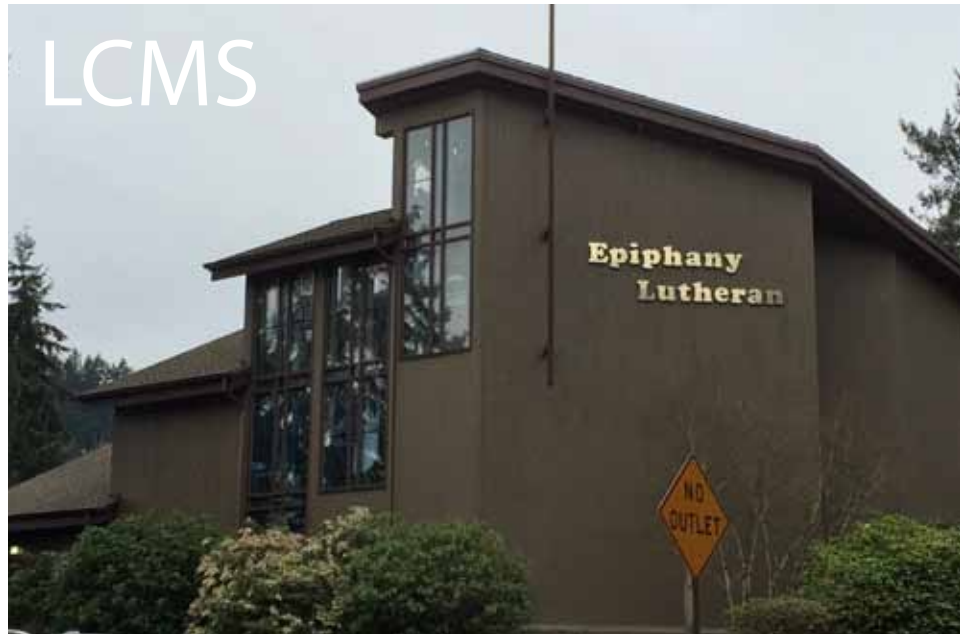
March 26^{6/7}, 2016



LDS



LCMS



Pastor Don Schatz



SEATTLE SEACOAST TOUR



The Whirlwind Church Tour

I flew jetBlue direct to Seattle for \$242.20, of which \$55.83 was a flight credit from 2014. I arrived on Tuesday, 3/15/16, and left Thursday, 3/24/16. It was a great trip all around.

Day 1 (3/15 T): I arrived and Squite met me at the airport. I got some groceries and Steve showed me around Bothell.

Day 2 (3/16 W): Steve had to go to work at 11:30 am, so I got coffee at the Lyon's Den. Seattle has tons of coffeehouses. There are 136 Starbucks locations in a five mile radius around Seattle. And there are plenty more one off coffee joints that also seem to survive. I met Ginger for a Greek dinner. Yum!

Day 3 (3/17 R): Steve works Th-Sat, 12 hour days. Ginger works until 5 pm. They both go to sleep at 8 pm. I exercised by walking Seattle's hills to the sounds of C.C. Rogers singing The Ghetto with Jestofunk. Good beats. That evening I visited with Park Street Church friend, Joe. He picked me up and we ate Chinese food at his house. It was great conversation, but the part that stuck out the most was how Joe talked about affirming LGBT folks on the ride home. I tend to agree with him. I think it should be okay to be gay in a Christian Church. Joe supports this position as an elder, so I think he is really strong. It's a civil rights issue.

Day 4 (3/18 F): This was the day I traveled by bus to Fantagraphics and bought a Charles Schulz comic compilation. After that adventure, I had dinner with Lisa and her family. We had a delightful Thai meal and then walked around West Seattle for a bit. We were talking about how her plan was to have a child, but she didn't want to get



The Baskin Robbins Selfie

married. Her husband wanted to get married first, so Lisa changed her plan. I told her how once I got off SSDI, I am going to join Christian Mingle immediately. She laughed at how we both had a plan. Her husband is very nice and her son is a little shy. We had a good talk and a long hug after. At home, Ginger made awesome smoothies with bananas, protein powder, veggie powder, peanut butter and a bit of dōTERRA essential oils. They were so good!

Day 5 (3/19 S): By this time, I found myself staying up until 11 pm researching plane tickets to Denver. I just couldn't get it out of my mind. So I was very tired this Saturday. Ginger and her sister, Robyn, took me to their family favorite breakfast place to eat California Eggs Benedict. Then, at the Mormon Family Center, I found myself engaged in looking up my great-grandparents and my tree. After a nap, we went grocery shopping. When Steve returned home we had "prayer in the round" and a group hug. This became the tradition every night. The prayers were moving: Steve prayed thanks for my loving heart; I prayed they can have kids.

Day 6 (3/20 S): This day the whirlwind Church tour began. First, at 10:30 am, we went to a Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod, my type of Church. I got a photo with the Pastor right before service. It was palm Sunday, so we all got palms and waived them around. The Pastor was funny and made some jokes. Steve and Ginger said they loved the music. They sang a few of the songs. We left before communion because the service was longer than I expected. We got a quick lunch at home and headed out to Steve and Ginger's Ward for a Mormon service.

The Mormon service is broken up into three parts. First is what we would consider "Church." They sing hymns, one of which I knew. They have laymen speakers come up and talk for what we might call a sermon. There is no authority or priest that speaks because Mormons believe, as do Protestants, that every believer is a saint. The service was kind of loud because Mormons are big into family and many had young children. I passed on communion, which is bread and water. Mormons don't believe in drinking alcohol, so they serve water for communion. I don't know why they just don't use grape juice. After this service there was a talk on how the Mormon writer, Nephi, repeated several of the things that Isaiah had written. I guess it was just so good, Nephi wanted to reiterate it. Finally, there was a Men's Group: my favorite part. Here the men gather and discuss things. A leader mediated; everyone had a chance to speak. The topic was Joseph Smith, the Founder of the LDS Church, and thoughts about him. Steve spoke up and told a lot of good stories to help people relate, and about how the Quorum of Apostles are just men like everyone else.

After service we watched the movie Evan Almighty. Robyn went to Snowqualmie Falls, where part of Steve and Ginger's wedding took place. Joe told me, when I visited, that he had strep throat. Sunday morning I noticed a bit of sore throat. But Ginger gave me a pill made with dōTERRA essential oils, and the sore throat went away in 30 minutes! I took those pills regularly and never got the strep throat. I found it amazing how well dōTERRA products worked. When Robyn returned, the two of us played Ingenious.

Day 7 (3/21 M): Ginger forgot her iPad, so we delivered it as we traveled downtown. Steve and I bought the City Pass for \$70 for entry to 4 museums and the Space Needle. There is a \$55 City Pass for Boston, so look it up if a friend is in town (www.CityPass.com). We went to the EMP Museum, which is a music / pop culture museum. I liked the history of guitar making, Hello Kitty, and my favorite: the Nirvana exhibit, about how the Seattle sound of punk mixed with grunge found its way into the public sphere. We also went to the Science Center. The butterfly room caught my eye.

Ginger met us near Nordstrom's for a delightful meal at an Italian restaurant. The manager gave us a free dish of tomato bruschetta. The meal was great: I had salmon sliders. They treated me, which was nice. We took the monorail back to the Seattle Center and went atop the Space Needle, built for the World's Fair in 1962. The top had a great, but cloudy and rainy, view. At home we had prayer in the round.

Day 8 (3/22 T): Steve and I took the 522 bus downtown to Pike Place. We saw the first Starbucks and the huge line out the door. We walked one block for a Starbucks with no line at all. Then we visited the Aquarium, where it pleased Steve to see the Octopus feeding and the Sea Otters. Next we walked a few piers over and took the Argosy Harbor Tour. This was great, I really enjoyed the tour guide. She told us about Seattle history. We saw the Seattle skyline, but the sea port history interested me most. We saw the huge container cranes that lift large train size cargo boxes onto and off of large shipping boats. She told us how they load each shipping container in just 90 seconds! These cranes are massive. She also told how one of the largest boats ever built docked in the Seattle Port on 2/29/16. This ship is so big it passes under the Golden Gate Bridge with only 20' to spare!

Returning home on the 522 bus was tough because the driver got lost in downtown traffic. She had to ask passengers where to go. At about the same time, we saw a man who had climbed an 80' pine tree in front of Macy's. There were police cars and a fireman on a tall ladder trying to get him down. Meanwhile he threw apples and pine cones at the cops and firefighters. He was up there for over 24 hours.

Ginger made us delicious egg muffins at home. After that, I convinced Steve, tired from walking, to accompany us to Baskin Robbins. I stuck to my budget of just \$30/day, so I was able to treat them with thanks for hosting me. Before bedtime we had prayer in the round and a group hug.

Day 9 (3/23 W): Steve had to work at 11:30 am, so we hung out at the UW-Bothell library. Then I had a little computer trouble, which took a few hours to fix. Both Steve and Ginger returned late around 7:30 pm. We had smoothies and our last prayer in the round and a group hug.

Day 10 (3/24 R): I managed to wake up at 5:00 am, in time to say goodbye to Steve and Ginger before work. We had one last group hug. I went to Starbucks for caffeine, then packed lunch for the plane home. It was an easy flight. Coming to Seattle, I watched the movies Trainspotting and Devil's Advocate. On the flight home I watched Gravity and The Untouchables. I got home safely and Ally picked me up right at the airport, which was really nice. She caught me up with F.H.O.P news. There was a fire on our stovetop, among other things. I went to bed at midnight EDT / 9 pm PDT.

Now I must adjust, in 3 days, to a 6:30 am wake up for my Advanced CNC Skills Training class starting 3/28/16.



LOVELAND PASS, 2010



BOSTON-DENVER COLORADO DREAMING



Sun Country Airlines - Tue, 05/10/2016 - Wed, 05/18/2016 - \$193.20 - 2 Legs
Jet Blue -- Airlines - Mon, 05/09/2016 - Mon, 05/16/2016 - \$272.20 - Direct



After a few nights in WA, I started looking up Denver flights until 11 pm every night on my iPhone. I don't exactly know why I was so eager to visit there. Eventually, I decided to pray about this: I asked God if He would give me a fare for under \$260 and the money to afford it. And just that night I discovered Sun Country Airlines out of Minnesota! They had the flight listed above for \$193.20. Great deal.

I started to pester my friend, Greg, who lives in Denver. But quickly I realized the travel dates are during a CNC Skills Training Program I am attending until May 20. So I decided maybe I'll take a Southern Circuit Tour road trip. That would cost about 1/3 the price, a last hurrah before I start a career position. We shall see. I did learn, from site CheapAir.com, that cheapest flights are 3 to 7 weeks out.

SOUTHERN CIRCUIT TOUR



2004 Toyota Prius - Skye



- 01. Ryan - - Philadelphia - - - - PA
- 02. Liz - - Wilmington - - - - DE
- 03. Jeremy - Mechanicsville - - - VA
- 04. Greg - - Charlottesville - - VA
- 05. Kim - - Cary - - - - - - - NC
- 06. Kevin- - Durham - - - - - - NC
- 07. Martin - Morrisville - - - - NC
- 08. Roger - Charlotte - - - - - NC
- 09. Robin - Leesburg - - - - - VA

