

## Are You Nuts?

Barometers are used as an indicator of the weather. I like barometers. They are tools that measure air pressure and are indicators for weather patterns. Using barometers more generically, I like to use them as a word meaning "indicator" or "evidential/objective measure" for far more than just weather. I like to think that there are actual barometers for your life as a Christian. For example, in the song "They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love," love is the barometer. It is the indicator of our life as a

Christian. Is your love evidential to others? The NT writer of James suggests that "works/ actions" are the barometer of our faith as a Christian – James 2:20. A contemporary barometer might be the statement, "Are you nuts?" Actually, it is not really that contemporary. i would suggest it is the same question (only paraphrased) that the Pharisees asked Jesus over and over again – "Why does He eat with tax collectors and sinners – Is He nuts?" "Why do the His followers not wash their hands when they eat – Are they nuts?" "Why does Jesus heal/ work on the Sabbath – Is He crazy?"

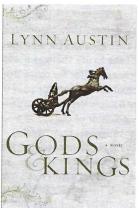
Well, if that is a barometer for Christian living, has anyone ever called you "nuts" for making decisions that defy contemporary thought? Has anyone called you "crazy" for actions of faith? If not, maybe it is time to put a little crazy in your life. The Christian walk does not conform to the culture — Romans 12:2. It is utter foolishness to our American way of thinking — 1 Cor 1. For example, tithing does not make cultural sense. Who in their right mind does that??? Martin Luther Jr/Sr High School has a history of craziness. One of the "founders" showed up in my office after donating to our parking lot (which is a crazy undertaking) stating how the founders were consider "nuts" for starting the high school. Well, that crazy series of steps has had 40+ years of success. In fact, sending kids to the "Jesus school" and PAYING tuition when the other schools are "free" does not make rational sense either. In many ways the Christian steps of faith are diametrically opposed to everything else, looking absolutely ridiculous to the external eyes.

So what do we do? Two things. First: Continue to look crazy to those who need to know Jesus. Your actions become your apologetic. Second: Encourage the Christians in your life to live more boldly, more crazily. We need to share this encouragement because we are humans and our sinful fibers do not want, or comprehend, steps of faith lived out ,putting all of us in various stages of doubt very regularly. Encouragement is critical! Seek Him FIRST and all these things will be provided – Matt 6:33. Martin Luther Jr/Sr High School stands ready to encourage and train up the next wave of ridiculous. God bless your foolish steps!

Come Lord Jesus, Amen!

Paul Steinhaus, Principal





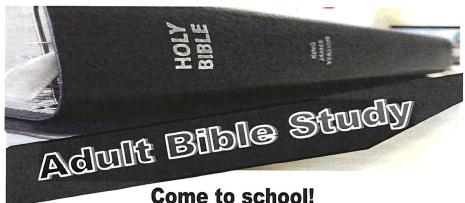
Lutheran Schools Book Club

Four sessions

#1 @ MLHS in October & November

Sign up in September

1st Book: "God's & Kings"



Come to school!

At MLHS Every Thursday 10:15-11:00 a.m.

Beginning September 7th

Topic: Luke-through the eyes of Wikipedia

Sign up for one or both @ 507-436-5249 or paulsteinhaus@martinlutherhs.com