

REDEEMER REPORTER

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH - MAY 2012

“A Time to Rest, But Not a Time for Waiting”

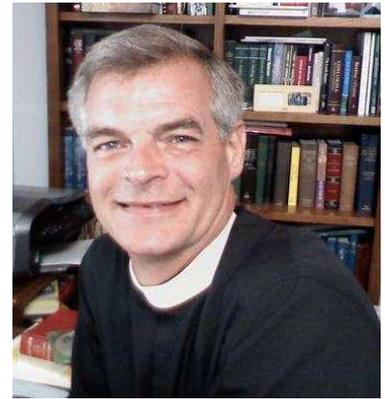
Now that the busy season is past, one would think it's a time for a little rest. Although rest is good following hard work, it's not good to remain idle. But, there are some who think it's a time for waiting. God has promised good things, and there are some people who are just waiting for them. There is also that part of the Christian Church that believes that you should not wait. They think you should go for it, go for the gusto, reach for it, name it and claim it, and make it happen yourself. My advice to that: “Beware of that sort of thinking.”

That was the approach of Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden. They were supposed to be working in paradise, yet waiting for God. The serpent lied to them and convinced them that they did not need to wait for God, that there was a direct route to what they wanted, and they could grab the bull by the horns (so to speak) and take what they once waited for God to give them and take it themselves. Satan said, “Why should you wait for it? There are ways to pursue it, whatever it is, and, you know, God helps those who help themselves.” That's a lie! And yet the devil still considers it a popular phrase today. The "name it and claim it" crowd in the visible, worldly, so-called Christian Church, who claim to know how to milk the Almighty and seize for themselves the promised blessings from God follow that ancient tradition, who believe the lie.

We are in the Easter season in the Church Year. It is that period between Christ's resurrection and ascension and the season of Pentecost. Nothing happens for weeks, except the Ascension, and that hardly seems to count, since so many congregations ignore it, and it seems like a sort-of second-tier holiday. So, we wait for Pentecost and Trinity Sunday. Easter is over, and we can pretend it isn't, but we are just waiting for Pentecost, or at least that is how it feels, sometimes. Some people are waiting.

Of course, some people spend their entire lives waiting. Many times, they don't even know what they are waiting for, if the truth were known. They are waiting for life. First they are too young, and then they are too busy, and then they are too sick, and then they live in the wrong neighborhood, and then they are too tired, and then they are too old, and then they are waiting for the signal that life is beginning. Oh, not the breathing and eating sort of life, but the "this is really important and I should pay close attention to this, and I want to be totally involved in this", sort of life. They are waiting for it to begin, and for the signal, the sign from above, that they should be focused and involved.

Of course those people are waiting for something they already have, that is right in front of them. It is easy to make the mistake of thinking that the moment we are in is a prelude to something significant, and we just have to wait for it, and we will discover



romance, or adventure, or something that will give our lives meaning or substance and direction. The truth, however, is that our lives are never a prelude, never an introduction that leads to something else. The moment we “live in” is not intended to lead to anything but the next moment. And guess what? We are given this moment, and hopefully the next ones as well, to “live in.” Life is what is happening now; even if we have our attention focused somewhere else and miss the joy and substance of the moment that we are in.

James writes, “Come now, you who say, ‘Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit’—yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes. Instead you ought to say, ‘If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that.’ As it is, you boast in your arrogance. All such boasting is evil” (James 4:13-16).

What you may not have paid attention to in that passage is that you ARE, today. You are a mist, something highly unstable and temporary, but you are! Your existence is dependent on the Lord, and not just for tomorrow. The day you have today is the day the Lord would have you live as His own, today. That small pleasure in the warmth of the sun on your back is a pleasure which He meant for you. He intended for it to be received with thanksgiving. The quiet stillness of the afternoon, which you may have greeted with boredom, is possibly a time of peace and stillness to be savored before the next storm of activity, maybe even trouble, comes thundering in on your life. Are you prepared for it? The people you pass in the store, the experiences of your day, the labors of your job, or of your retirement, are each placed there for you to serve,

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Pastor	Rev. James Kress
Winter Pastor	Rev. Earl Schmidt
Child Care Director	Wendy Horvath
Office Secretary	Jennifer Steele
Organists	Bill Bowers Lanette Schmidt
Choir Director	Doris Dykhuizen

OFFICERS

President	Rich Kueker
Vice President	
Treasurer	Judy Murphy
Secretary	Dorothy Sinowetski

BOARDS

Head Elder	Tim Byrne
Assimilation	Deb Kueker
Property Mgmt	Charlie Vovcsko
Christian Ed.	Pam Replinger
Human Care	Carol Carlos
Outreach	Carol Haupt
School Board	Bill Bowers
Stewardship	
Youth	
Financial Secretary	Karen Kirkland

CLUBS/GUILDS

Ladies Guild	Doris Dykhuizen
Men's Group	Bob Mortenson

“A Time to Rest, But Not a Time for Waiting” - Cont. from p. 1

experience, offer opportunity to confess Christ, or whatever. This is your life, now. Unfortunately, some people are just waiting.

If you knew that your life's purpose was this moment, this seemingly unimpressive moment with no apparent significance in the 'great scheme of things' what would you do? Would you try harder? Would you look for something you could do to make the moment more visibly important? Would you pay attention to all the little things of the moment and try to make the most of each? Would you focus on making this moment be to the glory of God? These are good questions, even important questions, because this moment is what this moment of your life is about. It isn't coming next week. Next week is coming next week. Right now is what your life is about right now, and you should be busy living the moment, conscious of the fact that this is life. If you are reading this (I agree, not the best comment), then the message you are reading is what this moment is about. Life isn't coming . . . it is here . . . and now!

Still, some might argue, aren't we waiting for Jesus to come again? Well, we shouldn't be. To be sure, Jesus is coming again, but please don't misunderstand me. It is just that Jesus never gave us the command to "wait." The Disciples had the command to "go" to Galilee and wait for Jesus, and then to "go" to Jerusalem and wait for what happened on Pentecost. We have no such command.

Our command is to teach all nations. Our command is to "Rejoice in the Lord always!" or "Rejoice always! Pray without ceasing! In everything give thanks!" Our command from Jesus includes "Love one another", and "Do good to all men, but especially to the household of the faith" and "be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your toil is not in vain in the Lord." God would have us "walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, to please Him in all respects, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God", always keeping in mind the apostolic exhortation that "Whatever you do, do your work heartily, as for the Lord rather than for men; knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance. It is the Lord Christ whom you serve." If I may risk one more Bible passage, it is the will of God that you "make it your ambition to lead a quiet life and attend to your own business and work with your hands, just as we commanded you; so that you may behave properly toward outsiders and not be in any need."

In short, we are supposed to be living these times as the holy people of God, aware that this time is the time He has given us to serve Him by what He has given us to do right now. He hasn't asked us to judge the worth or meaning of the moment, or decide that we are waiting for something, not even Christ's return. He will return, of course, but we are to be found busy living as His people, and confessing His name and His grace and salvation when He returns. He told the parable of the Master who went on a long journey, and when he returned he found some slaves goofing off and some faithfully working in order, to make that point.

Nevertheless, some are still just waiting. God gave you the time and the work you have, even in retirement, to use and to do to His glory. Right now is His time. So what are you doing with it?

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Now, every moment is not going to be the same. You eat with some of them, and sleep in others. Those aren't wrong activities. You need to do both. You can rest, play a game on your computer, or go to the movies. God intends us to live our lives. As long as the moment is not used for sin, it is not being misused. But this moment is the substance of your life, not some mythical moment in the future that you should wait for. Whatever it is you do should be done to His glory. St. Paul even says it explicitly: "So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God" (1 Corinthians 10:31). The context for that verse is a discussion of eating meats offered to idols, but it still means that whatever you do you should do to the glory of God. That would be with a clear conscience and with thanksgiving to God.

Your joys are to His glory. Your bearing up under sorrow is to His glory. How you face adversity is to be to His glory. What you choose to do as His child, how you throw yourself completely into the moment, and your recognition of the goodness of life is to His glory. The only things that aren't to His glory are sin, grumbling, and withholding yourself from life because you are just waiting for the so-called 'real life' to begin. Life is happening now, and it is God's gift. So live it, and give thanks, and take from it every good you can without sin. That full-throttle participation in life, in work, in play, in feeling, and in thanksgiving is what will show the world the glory of God in the lives of His people. It works particularly well if you live the life you have, the pains and sorrows as well as the joys and successes, in Him and in the knowledge of His presence in your life, and aware that now is the moment He has called you to serve Him by living in it.

Having said all of that, I would return to the first thoughts about the season of the Church year. We are in the short season between Easter and Pentecost. It is a quiet time in the Church year, but it is not a season of waiting. It is a season in the Church for celebrating the resurrection. Jesus rose from the dead, and that means we shall rise also! His resurrection was a preview in a sense.

A preview is a little piece of the coming episode or movie which is designed to catch your attention and gather your interest in the complete thing. The resurrection of Jesus is whole and complete, just as Scriptures reports it. In that sense, this is not a preview, but the first-fruits of the resurrection, as Scripture puts it. In the days of the Apostles, they hadn't seen our modern previews, but the resurrection of Jesus serves also in a sense as a preview.

His resurrection is just Him, so far. It is not incomplete without the rest of us. The joy of the thing is that we are included anyhow! On the day of the resurrection of all flesh, our resurrections will be just like His, because we will be rising in His resurrection. It is His power, and His righteousness, and His gift to us. Our resurrections will be part of His resurrection, in a sense the completion of it. We will all rise precisely because He rose from the dead, and we will be just as He was and is. His resurrection was to give us proof of our coming resurrection and to catch your attention (I guess this is a fair way of describing it), and gain your attention and interest in the complete thing, which will also include you.

That is what we are celebrating in this short season between Easter and Pentecost. We continue to sing the Easter hymns. Our lessons are generally grouped around Easter themes and Easter events. We are already the possessors of the fruits of Pentecost, so we aren't really waiting for it. Instead, as we approach the celebration of the unique gifts of Pentecost, we explore what it means to live out the truth of the resurrection in our daily lives.

What does it mean to the aches and pains of life that we are going to die and rise to a new life beyond pain and trouble and sorrow? How does it influence our conduct toward one another to consider that we are going to live together in glory for eternity? The way of the cross led Jesus to the glories of Easter. Where might God have planned the way of the cross in our lives to lead us? What is the meaning of our temptations and the challenges of our lives in the light of the resurrection behind us (in time) and the resurrection in front of us?

I cannot answer these questions precisely, right now. I know where the answer is, it is in Scripture, and in the living out of our days as God's holy people in faithfulness and thanksgiving. I know that we pursue it together, and in thanksgiving and prayer. The joy of the questions is in discovering the answers, and in applying the Gospel to our lives, and the issues we will face in our lives. This season of the Church year is for exploring the meaning of Easter today.

This is a season for thinking and talking and living, now. It is not for sitting idly around and just waiting. Still some people think that life and the meaning of it is not now, but somewhere else. Some people are just waiting. I choose not to be one of them. I still have so much to do, thank God!

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Kress

In May Let Us Prepare

Each family needs to establish a plan for its protection during an emergency. This plan should include the actions you will take and where you will go in case of an evacuation or emergency. Share your plan with family members so they know what to expect. If you live alone, please inform a member of the church so we will be able to assist you when needed.

Items to for your supply kit:

- One week of non-perishable food
- Water- 1 gallon per person per day for 3-7days
- Flashlight and batteries
- First Aid kit
- Two week supply of prescriptions or other medicines
- Sturdy clothing and footwear
- Blankets, pillows or sleeping bags
- Toiletries and hygiene items
- Personal items (books, toys, cards, etc.)
- Tools
- Important papers (valid ID)
- Credit cards and cash
- Pet food

Important numbers to remember: 2-1-1 provides callers with information about and referrals to human services for everyday needs and in times of crisis. Dial 5-1-1 to obtain real-time travel information on all interstate highways in Florida as well as Florida's turnpike. 511 informs you about accidents, severe weather conditions or other situations that can slow you down.

Submitted by Mary Ann Sochacki, L.P.N. Health Care Advocate

HUMAN CARE

The Human Care Board will present "Hurricane Awareness" by Wayne Sallade, Director of the Charlotte County Emergency Management, on Wednesday, May 23, 2012 at 1:00pm. The community is also invited so please bring neighbors and friends, as there will be an introduction to the new evacuation plan.

A new singles, widow, widowers luncheon will be formed with Lessie Kirch as coordinator. Luncheons will begin in June and all church members identifying with this group are welcome.

"Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins." 1 Peter 4:8

Submitted by Carol Carlos

CELL PHONES FOR SOLDIERS

A "Cell Phone for Soldiers" drop box is located in the narthex. Drop off your old cell phone and our troops serving overseas will receive sixty-minute calling cards good anywhere in the world. Thank you for your help.



FROM THE TREASURER'S DESK

2011 Church Actual vs. Budget Through March 31st, 2012

<i>Income Budget</i>	<i>Income Received</i>	<i>Expenses</i>
\$22,138.09	\$21,949.76	\$19,474.01

The Newsletter deadline for the June Newsletter is May 20th. Please have all your submissions to the church office by that time. Thank you. Electronic submissions are best sent to redemerfl@verizon.net

PROPERTY APPRECIATION DAY

Please join us for our monthly "Property Appreciation" Day on the second Saturday of the month, May 12th!!! Join us in keeping our buildings and properties beautiful. There's a little something to do for anyone willing to help... For more information please contact Charlie Vovcsko at 941-266-5118. THANK YOU!-*Property Management*

STEPHEN MINISTRY

This newsletter highlights our two newest Stephen Ministers, Lynda Christoffers and Jane Schurr.

Lynda originally is from Long Island, New York. She and her husband Bob have lived in South Gulf Cove, Port Charlotte for three years and are full time residents. Lynda and Bob have been married for two and half years with two children each. Her presence at Redeemer for one year has been made known by, not only her regular attendance, but counting the money after service. She has retired from her own business and enjoys reading, helping others and spending time with her husband and family. Lynda states she became a Stephen Minister because of her love of helping others.

Jane hails from Fort Wayne, Indiana and has lived in Port Charlotte as a full time resident for 12 years. Jane is widowed and has one son, two step sons and one step daughter. She has worked as an administrative manager and presently works from home quilting of which she is very talented. She also enjoys gardening, reading and photography. Jane says she has been blessed in so many ways in her life that she would like to give some back and will be doing that through her ministry.

Both Lynda and Jane have been blessed with faith, compassion and trustworthiness. What a wonderful asset to our Stephen Ministry team.

"Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love ". Ephesians 4:2

Submitted by Carol Carlos

HUMAN CARE

ATTENTION---ATENNTION---ATTENTION

The Human Care Board is organizing a lunch for all singles- Widows and Widowers - MALE and FEMALE - for members and friends of the congregation. We think this will be something special for members who may not have had the opportunity to lunch with someone. It should be a lot of fun. We are presently planning once a month through August. Our first lunch will be held at the following: Lock & Key Restaurant on Beach Road

Date: Tuesday, June 12th

Time: 11:30 AM

A sign-up sheet is being placed to the left in the narthex. If you would like to attend, please sign up no later than May 27th. If this is well attended, we will lunch at the same place and time on July 10th and August 14th. We hope you will give this a try. For those needing a ride, arrangements can be made to pool together from church. We will see that you get there.

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 12, 2012

PRESENT: Rich Kueker, Pastor Kress, Tim Byrne, Carol Haupt, Charlie Vovcsko, Carol Carlos, Judy Murphy, Karen Kirkland, Deb Kueker, Bill Bowers, D. Sinowetski

The meeting was called to order at 6:05pm by President Rich Kueker

Pastor opened with a prayer.

MINUTES of February 13, 2012 was presented. Correction were made to: Under Pastor's report, change the sentence about Rev. Gaulke to read, Rev Gaulke was our nomination as Circuit Counselor but he has declined. And under Property Management: Add The Al-Anon group will meet at 7pm beginning April 4th. CAROL HAUPT MADE A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES AS CORRECTED, CHARLIE VOVCSKO SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED.

REPORTS

PASTOR KRESS:

- * The Wagner/Moore Wedding will be March 18th, at 6:30pm
- * The Moore/Timmins Wedding will be April 20th, at 10am. They have requested the use of Fellowship Hall.
- * Funeral Service for Henry Kirsten was March 12, 2012.
- * Circuit was hosted on March 6th.
- * District Convention will be June 22-24. Pastor Mark Steinke will preach here.

ELDERS Tim Byrne reported.

- *Rev Leavitt was elected Circuit Counselor.
- * Nominations of offices of FL/GA District: For President: Greg Walton, for District Secretary: Randy Winkle. TIM MOVED, CHARLIE SECONDED TO ACCEPT THESE NOMINATIONS AND PRESENT TO THE VOTERS. ONE OPPOSED, MOTION CARRIED.
- * There will be a combined Lutheran Reformation Service on October 28th at Concordia Lutheran Church, Sarasota, at 4pm. Rev. Walton will preach.
- * TIM MADE A MOTION TO GRANT PERMISSION TO THE MOORE/TIMMINS WEDDING, THE USE OF FELLOWSHIP HALL. MOTION CARRIED.

Submitted by Dorothy Sinowetski
Congregation Secretary

STEWARDSHIP

“April showers bring May flowers. April, traditionally a rainy period, gives way to May, when flowers will bloom because of the water provided for them by the April showers” In many parts of our country this old idiom still rings true. Proper amounts of rain and sunshine combine to produce beautiful flowers. It is a kind of “action/reaction” thing.

There is an application for our lives as God’s stewards and managers of all of life and life’s resources for His purposes. Dr. Martin Luther’s explanation to the First Article of the Apostles’ Creed states it so well when it credits God with being our Maker and Provider. God richly provides us with all that we need to support this body and life. **All** is used nine times in Luther’s explanation. Our Almighty Father in heaven has made us and all creatures, gives us all we need and defends us against all danger and guards and protects us from all evil. The clincher for us as God’s stewards comes in the closing paragraph of Luther’s explanation of the First Article as he writes: *“All this He does only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me. For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him.”*

The truth of the matter is that our Heavenly Father provides everything that we need in this life. His greatest

gift is His Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who came willingly to this sinful world to offer up His holy life for the sins of the world—yours and mine included. That takes care of our spiritual welfare. That is the most important gift, but God also lavishes all kinds of physical gifts upon us as His people.

God richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment (1 Timothy 6:17b), but He also wants us to use all these blessings in unselfish ways to bring glory to His holy name and blessings to those people around us, just like April showers bring May flowers. Our faithful management and use of God’s gifts makes life more beautiful and fragrant for us and others.

How we use our time, abilities and financial resources makes a big difference for us and others. How we manage our relationships, God’s creation, our own bodies and the privilege of sharing the good news of Jesus also makes a big difference for us and others.

We give thanks to God for calling us to be His maturing stewards who are privileged to manage all of life and life's resources for His purposes! May God’s Holy Spirit work richly in, with and among us so that we live each day as God’s redeemed children who are growing in the divine traits of loving and giving!

PRAYER REQUEST from Jack & Cathy Carlos

Please pray with us:

- We will meet with Monsieur Tounkara, the Minister of Public Buildings, to discuss the possible collaboration between the Government of Guinea and the Lutheran Mission on a clinic here in Siguiri at 10:30am our time (5:30am CST) tomorrow, Saturday, April 28. Pray that the meeting will go well and that God would guide us in our conversation.

- Thanksgiving for healing for Jack - after suffering from what we believe were kidney stones over the past couple of weeks, Jack started having fever and chronic back pain. We assumed it was a kidney infection and he started taking antibiotics - now, after 3 days he is feeling so much better. Pray for continued and complete healing.

- Thanksgiving that due to the gifts of four very generous families, funding has been received to develop the Growing in Grace Lutheran Church land near Siguiri. Building will begin this week!

- For the team of 7 people from Messiah Lutheran Church in Lakeville, MN as they prepare to come to Siguiri in August with MOST Ministries to hold eyeglass clinics - pray for their preparation and for needed funds to be available to cover the costs of their trip.

In Him,

Jack & Cathy Carlos

"So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal." 2 Corinthians 4:18

PRAYERS

SHUT-INS: Marjorie Boliere, Gloria Carlson, Evelyn Etheridge, Erv Maki, Jim Prather, and Ruth Sutley.

HEALING: Members: Alice Borowski, Kathryn Demma, Donna Hansen, Bob Johnson, Cliff Larsen, Jim Libke, the family and friends of Jack Melcher, Clara Mitchell, Bob Mortenson, Bob Payne, Herb Petersen, the family and friends of Don Plesner, Ron Ratzlaff, Michael Sanders, Helen Sturzenbecker, Marie Talley, Fred & Clara Jo Toth, Ronald Woller.

Friends & Relatives: Lorraine Agens, Linny Aspery, Jean Bajner, Mary Beaver, Grace Blum, Georgia Bush, Jack & Cathy Carlos, Debbie Carr, Bobbett Clark, Harry Dahlburg, Carly DeFeos, Renee Dempsey, John and Irene DiTommaso, Barb Dumeah, Nick Frees, Manual Galan, Glenn Galway, Nancy Gleis, Malia Grayer, Lucas Hall, Debbie Harrison, Larry Headun, Claudette Hendershot, Glory Herget, Robin Hincman, David Hirtle, Tom Holt, Stanley Jablonski, Douglas Johnson, Heather Johnson, Ashley Johnston, the family and friends of Doris Fruhling Jurina Rachel Kagay, Wayne Kaltwasser, Marinela Kandt, Julie Keck, Mary Krueger, Jim Lane, Denise Lines, Sean Maki, Elsie Malecki, Joe Manson, Patrick McCord, Pete Mogg, Linda Mohr, Mike Morrissey, Kaye Gene Mortenson, Ann Nagel, Judy Nagel, Dan Niemann, Darwin & Noreen Oliver, Charles Pentecost Jr., Mary Raines, Delaney Saunders, Ryan Sheahan, Ray Sims, Nancy Sly, Debbie Speer Smith, Michael Stio, Eva Tabbitas, Teresa Tormala, Samantha Jo Ann Toth, Helen Weishaar, Gordan Winkel, Reece Withers, Angel Zavala.

Military Personnel: Daniel Anderson, Matthew Anderson, Adam Buchner, Eric Byrne, Kevin Copeman, Christopher Dutch, Michael Garza, Joshua Gooding, Roger Hammond, Christopher Hankins, Jonathan Hibbard, Jonathan Hudson, Nathan Hudson, Brian Jackson, Katherine Janssen, Keith Janssen, Josh Johnson, Joshua Jones, Jesse Krone, Michael Monson, Jesse Morse, Christian Mosser, Jeremy Schaitz, Scott Senna, Brandon Smith, Jeremy Twombly, Matthew Walenta, and Charles Weishaar.

Pastor and members of the church are always willing to pray for you, family members and friends. If a loved one appears on our prayer list above, please call pastor or the church office to give us a health update. Thank you.



May 6th

Erna Abel, Mickie Abel

May 13th

Erna Abel, Betty Clemens

May 20th

Angie Ziegler, Melissa Brew

May 27th

Provided by Assimilation

ANGEL'S STORY: THE BEGINNING

The phone call came in from our daughter on March 24, 2012. She was sobbing, "Dad, they say Angel has cancer." This is the beginning of Angel's story with this nasty disease. Angel in general is a happy little six year old boy that loves dinosaurs, loves soccer and baseball and his little brother Isaac. He plays constantly and is typically not lying around watching TV. In the month preceding the diagnosis he was sick quite a bit, complaining about not feeling good. He was quite pale and overall "not himself". The day he was diagnosed, he woke up with left sided paralysis. This sent the parents to the Doctor's office with Angel. The Doctor ran some blood tests and with care explained that he had cancer and needed to send Angel to Children's Memorial in Chicago for further tests to determine what kind of cancer.



The trip to Children's Memorial is about an hour and a half from Joliet, and the mind does run its course of what ifs? Why's? How's? And it's not fair. What did I do to cause this, why Angel? , and God why? The word CANCER provokes the fear of most people, let alone it being the diagnosis in your child/grandchild. It is the diagnosis of the sinking stomach and heavy heart.

As grandparents listening to this all unfold we tried to be the voice of reason, "maybe they are wrong", "they are sending you to Children's Memorial, that is where you will find out the real answer". And then the call comes and the original Doctor was right. By midnight, the diagnosis was in, LEUKEMIA. How do you guide your children through this scary process? How do you not question God? Who do you tell? What do you do from 2000 miles away? Why this baby? Pray, pray and pray and beg God for mercy, call and inbox family to get the information out, and research.

The next step to get through, what kind? What kind of Leukemia is it? "They will be doing a bone marrow biopsy on Angel tomorrow and then we will know what kind, when they do the biopsy they will be inserting a port". (A port provides constant access to a blood line and to be able to administer the chemotherapy without constantly pricking the patient for an IV line.) By Monday evening, the biopsy and port were complete and we were waiting for the type to be determined, through the research we learned that the 2 forms are ALL (Acute lymphocytic leukemia) and AML (Acute myelogenous leukemia). It was hoped that he had the ALL form as it is acute but if caught early, much more curable. It is amazing that you can be praying to the Lord for a type of cancer...who would have ever thought that?

Monday evening the diagnosis is in...ALL...praise GOD!

Now, the treatment plan...extensive chemotherapy the first week, and then once a week for the next 3 years. That is a LONG time for a 6 year old.

Angel's first week in chemotherapy he received a couple of blood transfusions and a lot of chemotherapy, but by the end of the week, his color was back, and his fun little personality had returned. He was going to normal, but in many ways he wasn't. We know God will reveal His glory through this unexpected situation, yet it's so difficult to simply believe that.

The Lord Almighty speaking through the Prophet Isaiah, we are reminded of what He says, "Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; His understanding is unsearchable" (Isaiah 40:28). And so while God both loves His people and has power to save them, even sick little 6 year old boys, His plans unfold in ways we could not imagine.

This is all "new" to us but already we have been blessed. Blessed that leukemia in children is no longer a death sentence; blessed by a church family that has taken the time to see our need and pain and ask us how they could help; and blessed by people who have been through this disease and know the steps that are being walked by our family. The miracles are there in the midst of the trials, and God's glory will always be revealed. When we are faithless, He remains faithful. He is strong for us when we are weak and in the current situation He is holding us all in the palm of His hands. Even in this short period of time, Angel has shown improvement and has also experienced a setback. I am sure he will have more as this is a result of the battle against the disease. It is our prayer that you continue to keep him and our family in your daily prayers that we all may remain faithful in the midst of this trial and look for the miracles, even if they are small.

Submitted by Pastor & Lisa Kress

STONE CRAB FAITH NIGHT!



The Alleluia Ringers of Concordia University Wisconsin

Florida Tour - May 20 - May 29, 2012



- Mon., May 21, 6:30 pm - St. Paul Lutheran Church, Lakeland, FL**
- Tues., May 22, 7:30 pm - First Lutheran Church, Gainesville, FL**
- Wed., May 23, 7 pm - Lutheran Church of the Cross, Punta Gorda, FL**
- Thur., May 24, 7 pm - First Presbyterian Church, Lake Placid, FL**
- Sat., May 26, 7:15 pm - Trinity Lutheran Church, Orlando, FL**
- Sun., May 27, St. Luke's Lutheran Church, Oviedo, FL**
Sunday services 8, 9:30 and 11am

The Alleluia Ringers, just one of Concordia University's fine musical groups is comprised of 13 undergraduate students who ring 6 octaves (73 bells) and 5 1/2 octaves of handchimes (79). The group is chosen by audition each fall. This is the 26th year under the direction of Dr. John Bohnke.

Besides performing throughout the United States, The Alleluia Ringers has made 3 tours of Germany, 2 tours of Norway, and performed twice at national events of The American Guild of English Handbell Ringers (AGEHR), and are heard each year on the demo CDs of AGEHR Music.

*Don't miss hearing this
incredible group of
young musicians!*

All concerts are
freewill offering -
Seating is first come -
first served.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST & SILENT AUCTION



EASTER SUNDAY COFFEE HOUR





From Redeemer Lutheran Child Care

Bible Lessons

Chapel is on Mondays at 3:45

5/7 Peter Denies Jesus

Mark 14:66-72

5/14 Jesus Ascends into Heaven

Acts 1:6-11

5/21 God Sends the Holy Spirit

Acts 2:1-41

5/29 God's Servant Stephen

Acts 6:8-7:60



Jesus is alive!

Revelation 1:18

Welcome to Redeemer Child Care

Kaylee, Joe, Michael, Ms. Mallory, Ms. Carrie and Ms. Megan

Birthdays

Kyleigh 5/14

Brianna 5/15

Cyanna 5/17

Ms. Megan T. 5/20

Ava W. 5/23

Daniel 5/25

Amy 5/27

Devin F. 5/27



A Great Big Thank you to Ms. Dottie!

Thank you for reading a Bible Story to us every Thursday. We look forward to seeing you in the fall. Have a nice summer. We love you!

The Children of Redeemer

Closed

May 28, 2012 For Memorial Day

What We Are Learning

5/7-5/18 Down by the Seashore

5/21-5/25 Let's get ready for Kindergarten!

5/28 Summer Begins with the theme of:

It's Going To Be A Whale Of A Summer!



Thank You

Thank you for your continued support with the Angel Scholarship fund.

Submitted by Wendy Horvath

CLASSIFIEDS

Beautician/Manicurist	Debbie Balogh Linda Pontello	Purple Palace Purple Palace	941-475-0731 941-475-0731
Sales—Rentals	Pineapple Gulf Properties—Glenda McDorman, Owner/Broker (Lessie Kirch's Daughter) 350 S. Indiana Road Englewood, FL 34223. Office: 941-473-0300, Cell: 941-330-7922.		
Handyman	Work any handyman job from A-Z, nothing is too big or small. Please call John Toth at 941-697-1670!		
Cleaning Services	Free estimates! Please contact Sheila Murphy at 941-473-1747.		
Lawn Care	Call Todd Armstrong at 941-961-7584 for your lawn care needs.		
Construction	Call Rob Long! A.C.S., Inc. - Licensed General Contractor - Anything from full remodels, full lanai's, window and door installation and ALL phases of construction. State certified licensed and insured. Please call for a free estimate at 941-475-5008 or 941-232-6606!		
Real Estate	SURF & SAND REALTY - Pat Whipple, Realtor 2350 N. Beach Road, Unit 3B, Englewood 34223. I'd love to help you find your perfect home or sell it, because I really care. Please contact me at (352) 360-5024 or (941) 474-7755!		

REDEEMER GOLF OUTING

The Golf Outing was a huge success! We had 44 golfers and raised over \$1700.00 for the Angel Scholarship Fund. We would like to give special thanks to those that volunteered many hours to the success of the fundraiser! This includes, Sarah Sloan, Wendy Horvath, Lisa Kress, Carol Haupt, Deb Keuker, Bill Bowers, and Pastor Kress. We would also like to thank our Business sponsors: Treasure Lanes Bowling Port Charlotte, Charlie D Vovcsko Concrete, Englewood Ford, Bill Bowers Appraisal Services, Jawor's Gratiot Golf Center and our Memorial Sponsors: Robert Garfield, Thrivent Financial for Lutherans-Tim Byrne; Ty Schulte In Memory of Timmy Schell; Charles Marek DDS; Kevin Hopkins-In Memory of All Fallen Officers; Nicholas and Rylie Clauss in Memory of Nicole Clauss.

Submitted by Lisa Kress

**REDEEMER RED HATS LUNCHEON**

The next Red Hat Luncheon will be Tuesday, May 22nd at 12:00 Noon. The luncheon will be held at Nicola's (4343 S. Access Road Englewood 34224). A sign-up sheet is located in the narthex.



REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH
6970 Mineola Road
Englewood, FL 34224

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REDEEMER
LUTHERAN CHURCH
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Englewood, FL 34224

REV. JAMES T. KRESS, SR.

REDEEMER REPORTER

Published monthly for members, Associate Members and Visitors of Redeemer Lutheran Church (LCMS).

WORSHIP SERVICES:

May—September: 9:15 AM

Sunday School: 9:15 AM

Bible Study: 8:30 AM

CHURCH OFFICE PHONE: 941-475-2410

We, the members of Redeemer Lutheran Church are called into the service of our Lord by accepting His command (Matthew 28:18-20):

- *Making disciples of all nations / peoples.*
- *Baptizing them in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.*
- *Proclaiming the Gospel and teaching the Word.*

Christ's love for us compels us to serve our neighbors as He served us.



MAY



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<p>1 9:00 AM Hula 6:00 PM Elder's Mtg 7:00 PM AA Mtg.</p>	<p>2 9:00 – 11:00 AM Tap 10:00 AM Outreach 7:00 PM Al-Anon Mtg.</p>	<p>3 10:00 AM Sr. Fellowship 4:00 – 5:30 PM Youth Confirmation Class 6:30 PM Stephen Ministry</p> <p><i>National Day of Prayer</i></p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p>
<p>6 The 5th Sunday of Easter 8:30 AM Bible Class 9:15 AM Divine Service 9:15 AM Sunday School</p>	<p>7 9:00 – 11:00 AM Tap 3:45 PM Child Care Chapel 5:30 PM Weight Watchers 6:00 PM School Board</p>	<p>8 9:00 AM Hula 6:00 PM Christian Education 7:00 PM AA Mtg.</p>	<p>9 9:00 – 11:00 AM Tap 7:00 PM Al-Anon Mtg.</p>	<p>10 10:00 AM Sr. Fellowship 4:00 – 5:30 PM Youth Confirmation Class</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12 8:00 AM - ? Property Appreciation Day</p>
<p>13 The 6th Sunday of Easter 8:30 AM Bible Class 9:15 AM Divine Service 9:15 AM Sunday School</p> <p><i>Happy Mother's Day!</i></p>	<p>14 7:00 AM Men's Group 9:00 – 11:00 AM Tap 3:45 PM Child Care Chapel 5:30 PM Weight Watchers 7:00 PM Council Mtg</p>	<p>15 9:00 AM Hula Class 7:00 PM AA Mtg. 4:00 – 5:30 PM Confirmation Rehearsal</p>	<p>16 9:00 – 11:00 AM Tap 7:00 PM Public Examination 7:00 PM Al-Anon Mtg.</p>	<p>17 10:00 AM Sr. Fellowship 6:30 PM Stephen Ministry</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p>
<p>20 The 7th Sunday of Easter with Confirmation 8:30 AM Bible Class 9:15 AM Divine Service 9:15 AM Sunday School NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</p>	<p>21 9:00 – 11:00 AM Tap 3:45 PM Child Care Chapel 5:30 PM Weight Watchers</p>	<p>22 9:00 AM Hula Class 12:00 NOON Red Hat Luncheon @ Nicola's 7:00 PM AA Mtg.</p>	<p>23 9:00 – 11:00 AM Tap 10:30 AM Human Care 1:00 PM Hurricane Prevention Speaker - Wayne Sallade 7:00 PM Al-Anon Mtg.</p>	<p>24 10:00 AM Sr. Fellowship</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p>
<p>27 The Day of Pentecost 8:30 AM Bible Class 9:15 AM Divine Service 9:15 AM Sunday School BLOOD PRESSURE</p>	<p>28 9:00 – 11:00 AM Tap 5:30 PM Weight Watchers</p> <p>Memorial Day <i>Child Care & Church Office Closed</i></p>	<p>29 9:00 AM Hula Class 3:45 PM Child Care Chapel 6:00 PM Stone Crab Baseball Game 7:00 PM AA Mtg.</p>	<p>30 9:00 – 11:00 AM Tap 7:00 PM Al-Anon Mtg.</p>	<p>31 10:00 AM Sr. Fellowship</p>		

Wedding Anniversaries – May 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4 <i>Cecil & Sybil Grahl (55 Years)</i>	5
6	7	8	9 <i>Steven & Wendy Horvath (14 Years)</i>	10 <i>Ermand & Mary Citrone (64 Years)</i>	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23 <i>Joe & Judy Scarangella (48 Years)</i>	24	25	26 <i>Earl & Arlene Harden (56 Years)</i>
27	28	29	30	31		

Birthdays – May 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 <i>Olga Nagel</i>	2	3	4	5
6 <i>Kevin Hopkins</i>	7 <i>Matthew Geist</i>	8	9 <i>Carol Haupt</i>	10	11	12
13 <i>Rev. Mark Steinke</i>	14 <i>Sharon Harris Deb Kueker</i>	15 <i>Clarence Sturzenbecker</i>	16	17 <i>Doris Dykhuizen Zachary Keller</i>	18	19 <i>Ray Altmann</i>
20 <i>Helen Sturzenbecker</i>	21 <i>Shelby Sita</i>	22	23 <i>Patricia Luedtke</i>	24 <i>Arlene Harden</i>	25 <i>Fred Fernald</i>	26 <i>Ellie Ratzlaff</i>
27 <i>Scott Altmann Michelle Oliver</i>	28 <i>Robert Scheel</i>	29 <i>William Balogh</i>	30 <i>Cheryl Thatcher</i>	31 <i>Carol Vovcsko</i>		