

REDEEMER REPORTER

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH - SEPTEMBER 2011

“MIRACLES NEVER CEASE”

During His earthly ministry Jesus performed miracles, many miracles. From His first miracle of changing water into wine to calming a storm to walking on water, we read about the numerous miracles of Jesus. In my reliable *Lutheran Study Bible*, contains a list of the miracles of Jesus (page 1596). It records 36 miracles showing which Gospels they appear. Many of Jesus' miracles are recorded multiple times by the Gospel writers. However, it mentions Jesus to have performed many more miracles according to the evangelists, but they don't describe them. We can surely agree then, in Jesus' day, miracles never ceased.

So I was pondering this question; were the miracles that Jesus did in the New Testament only to benefit the eyewitnesses to those miracles or were they recorded to also benefit us? In order to answer this question properly, let's take a look at a few examples of Jesus' miracles.

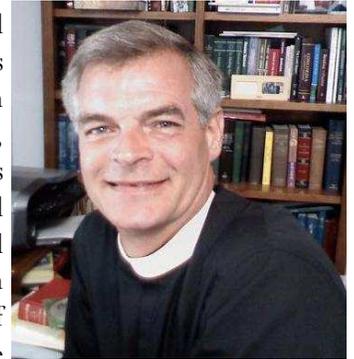
“And [Jesus] went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. So His fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought Him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and He healed them” (Matthew 4:23-24). Notice in this first account that Jesus' fame spread throughout all Syria. Why? Because He healed every disease and every affliction among the people, that's why. And that's the most important point here: Jesus healed them.

Let's look at another example: “Soon afterward [Jesus] went to a town called Nain, and His disciples and a great crowd went with Him. As He drew near to the gate of the town, behold, a man who had died was being carried out, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow, and a considerable crowd from the town was with her. And when the Lord saw her, He had compassion on her and said to her, ‘Do not weep.’ Then He came up and touched the bier, and the bearers stood still. And He said, ‘Young man, I say to you, arise.’ And the dead man sat

up and began to speak, and Jesus gave him to his mother. Fear seized them all, and they glorified God, saying, ‘A great prophet has arisen among us!’ and ‘God has visited His people!’ And this report about Him spread through the whole of Judea and all the

surrounding country” (Luke 7:11-17). Notice in this second account that Jesus had compassion upon the widow who was now about to bury her son. Then, with His word and touch, Jesus raised the dead son to life. As a result, this report about Jesus' miracle spread throughout all Judea and the surrounding communities. Why? Again, because Jesus does the miracle, that's why. Jesus uses His word and He personally makes contact with the person who is dead. And that's the most important point here.

Now let's look at our final example: “And as Jesus passed on from there, two blind men followed Him, crying aloud, ‘Have mercy on us, Son of David.’ When He entered the house, the blind men came to Him, and Jesus said to them, ‘Do you believe that I am able to do this?’ They said to Him, ‘Yes, Lord.’ Then He touched their eyes, saying, ‘According to your faith be it done to you.’ And their eyes were opened. And Jesus sternly warned them, ‘See that no one knows about it.’ But they went away and spread His fame through all that district” (Matthew 9:27-31). In this account, notice the blind men call out to Jesus to “Have mercy upon them.” Notice also that the blind men follow Jesus into a house. Notice then how Jesus brings out the question of their faith: “Do you believe?” Notice finally and again, by His word and touch, Jesus gives them sight according to their faith and how the healed men spread Jesus' fame through the entire district. Why? Again and finally, because Jesus does the miracle, that's why. And that is the most important point: Jesus uses His word and personally



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touches the men who believe by faith and not by sight.

No doubt, Jesus' fame increased as a result of His healing power. We can clearly see, by looking into these accounts, that many of the eyewitnesses spread the news of such miracles throughout their region. Naturally they were excited about these great occurrences, of which they probably had never experienced before, and so they spread the news by word of mouth and so Jesus' fame rapidly increased.

Always remember, miracles are done only by the Miracle Worker, God in Christ Jesus. However, I also used these examples to help make this important point: “Eyewitnesses of miracles spread the good news by word of mouth.”

Now here's an interesting question for you to ponder: “Does Jesus perform miracles today?” We will all agree that with the Word of God and in the water, the miracle of new life in Holy Baptism is given to the individual who was once dead in sin. We will all agree that with the Word of God over the bread and wine, the miracle of Christ Jesus coming to us, we receive from His hand His very body and blood for the forgiveness of sin. And let us also understand that Jesus performs these miracles in His house, where He promises to be, for you who come by faith and not by sight, and believe and trust in Him who does these miracles. In the hearing of His Word our eyes become open to the truth and the truth sets you free. Free from the bondage of sin, guilt, and shame. Free from the power of Satan. Free from the terror of death. Yes, Jesus continues to perform miracles, but are they the only ones He performs?

The following is a piece from the movie, “*Bruce Almighty*” when God, played by Morgan Freeman, speaks to Bruce, played by Jim Carrey, about miracles; he says, “Parting your soup is not a miracle Bruce, it's a magic trick. A single mom who's working two jobs, and still finds time to take her son to soccer practice, that's a miracle. A teenager who says ‘no’ to drugs and ‘yes’ to an education, that's a miracle. People want me to do everything for them. What they don't realize is they have the power. You want to see a miracle, son? Be the miracle.”

Although it sounds wonderful, we need to first

remember, it is Jesus who does the miracle. You are a miracle because God has placed His name upon you. You are a miracle because God, through the death of His Son, has forgiven you your sin and reconciled you to Himself. You are a miracle because God had raised His Son from the dead defeating sin, death, and the power of the devil in order that you too may have everlasting life with Him in His everlasting kingdom of glory.

Since the writing of my newsletter article last month, I have experienced what I would call ‘miracles;’ miracles through God's people. I have experienced the power of God's love in Christ through so many people with whom I have had the opportunity to sit down and talk. There has been an outpouring of forgiveness and support; grace and encouragement; love and strength (not to mention a few tears of joy). Miracles never cease.

God can use anyone to perform His miracles, but His desire is to use you who believe in Him by faith. Do you want to see a miracle? Ask God to accomplish His miraculous work in and through you.

And finally, John the Evangelist writes in his Gospel account, “Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the God, and that by believing you may have life in His name” (John 20:30-31).

So then, we can conclude in answering the question: “Were the miracles that Jesus did in the New Testament only to benefit the eyewitnesses to those miracles or were they recorded to also benefit us?” The miracles Jesus performed were obviously beneficial to the people long ago, but they are indeed beneficial and useful for us today. We can see how Jesus still uses means to perform His miraculous work of healing and restoration among His people. Remember what we have learned from the three examples of the miracles of Jesus above: (1) Jesus heals all, (2) Jesus opens eyes, and (3) Jesus raises the dead. Please join me in spreading this good news among our community in order that His fame may increase.

In His Service,
Pastor Kress

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNOR

Pastor Rev. James Kress
 Office Secretary Jennifer Steele
 Organists Bill Bowers
 Lanette Schmidt
 Choir Director Doris Dykhuizen

OFFICERS

President Ed Sheahan
 Vice President Rich Kueker
 Treasurer Pat Luedtke
 Secretary Dorothy Sinowetski

BOARDS

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

CLUBS/GUILDS

Ladies Guild Doris Dykhuizen
 Men's Group Bob Mortenson
 Christian Support Margie Cypher

It's been a long, hot and stormy spring and summer but we at Redeemer have weathered the storms well. When I mention the stormy weather I don't only refer to the outside weather but also to the stormy conditions within our Redeemer family. As many of you are aware we have once again experienced difficult times. I am happy to say that due to the efforts of the Redeemer leadership team, most notably Tim Byrne and his board of elders, along with the Florida – Georgia District including President Walton, Pastor Winkle and others from the district and most importantly Pastor Kress himself, we are now well into the reconciliation process and are back on the road to total reconciliation, understanding and trust. Those of you who were in attendance at the August 21st Service of Reconciliation were witness to a true event of healing. I can't thank President Walton enough for the leadership he provided during this difficult process. It was a truly inspiring service. We are making a special effort to reach out to those who have left Redeemer and assuring them that we would love to have them back in the flock. We pray for their return but will respect whatever decision they make.

We recently sent ballots to all voting members to approve/disapprove the granting of a loan to Child Care for the purchase of new playground equipment. We were all very gratified for the overwhelming support expressed by your votes. The council, elders and of course the school board all considered this a worthy cause for a deviation from the normal guidelines for the granting of a disbursement from the endowment fund. It is important to remember that this is a **LOAN** that will be repaid with interest and upon completion of the amortization schedule the endowment fund will be made whole including anticipated earnings which would normally have accrued during the period of the loan. Thank you for supporting this worthy project.

One more piece of good news is that we are about to begin the sound absorption project in the smaller room of the Fellowship Hall. We all know what an improvement was made in the large room and I am looking forward to a similar result in the small room.

The church council which now includes our newly appointed Vice-President Rich Kueker, is working hard on your behalf and will continue to do so.

Respectfully submitted,
 Ed Sheahan

AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF ELDERS

Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ,

I have served this congregation in various offices for a number of years. I have always considered it a privilege to serve you and I look forward to continue to serve you and our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Many, if not most of you, know or even have heard of the concerns we experienced within our congregation, especially with regards to our Pastor. My prayer and purpose during the past number of months was solely to bring about peace and harmony to all. In seeking out direction from our circuit and district leaders, it was with the assistance and guidance from Rev. Greg Walton, President of the Florida-Georgia District, that I believe God has answered my prayer.

Over the past few months, I have had the distinct honor of working with Ed Sheahan, President of Redeemer Congregation, and Pastor Kress. To be honest, it wasn't easy at first, but an amazing thing happened; the eyes of Pastor Kress suddenly became open. It was as if scales fell from his eyes and now he is able to see clearly the work he needs to accomplish. Resolution and reconciliation followed. Healing

among members and former members began and is still taking place.

In order to help all of us continue in this process of resolve and reconciliation and the restoration of God's people, a Service of Confession and Absolution was conducted in which President Walton officiated. I was encouraged by the number of people who attended, but I believe the message President Walton preached should be shared will all.

Enclosed is a recording of the Service of Confession and Absolution, held here at Redeemer on Sunday afternoon, August 21st. Prayerfully, listen to it and especially to President Walton's sermon. I, like others, have been encouraged by his message. My prayer for all of you is that you will be, like me, healed by Christ through the forgiveness of sins and that He would bring us back together again as a Christian family doing His work.

I am looking forward to seeing all of you again soon, as well as working and worshipping with you here at Redeemer Lutheran Church!

Your brother in Christ, Tim Byrne

OUTREACH NEWS

“Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you.” (Matthew 28:19)

PAUL, THE GREAT EVANGELIST?

In 1 Corinthians 2:1-5, Paul writes, *“And I, when I came to you brothers, did not come proclaiming to you the testimony of God with lofty speech or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. And I was with you in weakness and in fear and much trembling, and my speech and my message were not in plausible words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, that your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.”*

WOW! That sounds like us when we try to tell others about Jesus—weakness, fear, trembling, inarticulate speech, not knowing what to say, etc. Not the picture of Paul that we usually imagine him to be. Although Paul, a very learned man, could easily have spoken with much wisdom and lofty words, he chose not to. He relied on a simple message—Christ crucified for our sins, on simple language, and on the power of the Holy Spirit. We need not worry about what to say, or how to say it. Just tell them what Jesus did for us, with the presence of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit does the rest. Not so bad, after all, is it?

Pioneer Days Parade

Once again, Redeemer will be participating in Englewood's Pioneer Days Parade on Labor Day, September 5. The theme

this year is “Spirit of Englewood.” Karen Kirkland has been working on the float which we will call “Fruit of the Spirit.” Dorothy Sinowetski has provided some beautiful artwork for the float. Pastor will be walking along the parade route with our lovely “Redeemer Tappers,” all passing out “Redeemer” pencils and candy. Meanwhile, back at the park on Dearborn Street, Carol Haupt and her gang will be at our Redeemer booth, talking to people, passing out brochures, pencils, candies. The booth will have displays of what Redeemer is about and all the fun we have. We will also have a “free” raffle of prizes, with letters of invitation later being sent to those who enter the raffle. Stop by and see the parade and visit our booth.

FL-GA District Convocation

Carol Haupt will be joining Pastor, Tim Byrne, Deb and Rich Kueker in Daytona Beach September 28-30, for the District Convocation. Five sets of breakout workshops are offered (a total of 98 different classes to choose from). We will all be attending different workshops; I will be attending those on Outreach topics. We are all looking forward to this opportunity to worship together, obtain lots of new information for our respective ministries, and be refreshed in our mission.

Halloween Safewalk

We will again be participating in Englewood's Halloween Safewalk on Dearborn Street on Halloween, passing out Redeemer-labeled candy. We will again ask the congregation for help with candy donations. Details later.

Submitted by Carol Haupt



FLORIDA-GEORGIA DISTRICT

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LCEF & Administration

John Elliot
Finance & Administration

August 22, 2011

Dear Friends in Christ,

Greetings in the glorious name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

It was my great joy to be with the people of Redeemer Lutheran Church, Engelwood, FL. I am so sorry that I didn't get the opportunity to meet you at the Reconciliation Service I led on Sunday, August 21st. It was a wonderful opportunity to see God at work among His people working through the power of forgiveness. I would invite you to consider be part of what God is doing in this place as lives are being transformed by the Gospel.

Enclosed please find a CD of the service. I would humbly ask you to consider listening to the sermon and allow God to continue His work of reconciliation among, and through, His people. May God bless it to your hearing as we live as the forgiven children of God.

Many blessings in Jesus,

Rev. Gregory S. Walton, President
The Florida-Georgia District, LCMS

CHOIR PRACTICE

Choir practice begins on Wednesday, September 14th at 7:00 PM. If you like to sing, give us a try!!!

TALENT SHOW

Get ready!!! The Talent Show is November 11th!!!!

ATTENTION WILLING WORKER'S

The Property Management Board Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, September 11th. Please meet after the worship service in the Fellowship Hall. All board members as well as interested parties please attend. For more information please contact Charlie Vovcsko at 941-266-5118. THANK YOU!



REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

July 11, 2011

Present: Ed Sheahan, Pastor Kress, Tim Byrne, Bill Bowers, Pat Luedtke, Karen Kirkland, Charlie Vovcsko, Carol Haupt, Jane Hoivik, Pam Replinger, Dorothy Sinowetski and guests Rich & Deb Kueker.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by President Ed Sheahan. Pastor opened with a prayer.

The minutes of June 20, 2011 were presented. BILL BOWERS MOVED TO WAIVE THE READING OF THE MINUTES, JANE SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED. PAT LUEDTKE MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES AS PRESENTED. BILL BOWERES SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED.

The August calendar was presented and updated.

REPORTS**PASTOR:**

- Appreciation was extended to Betty Clemens and Pam Replinger for filling in at the office.
- Presented a list of members who have requested a Transfer. They are: Georgette Callahan, Diana Collins, Larry Kappauf, Samuel Simonson, Naomi Sylvester, Barbara Wolgast. TIM BYRNE MOVED TO ACCEPT THESE TRANSFERS. CAROL HAUPT SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED.
- There will be a FL/GA Convocation on September 28th through the 30th to be held in Daytona and is open to all leaders of the Church. It will equip them as Leaders in Christ. Next month's Council meeting will meet to discuss which line item will cover expenses.

PRESIDENT:

- Ed introduced Rich Kueker as future Vice-President upon signing the Voter's Registration at the next Voter's Assembly.
- Appreciation to Jane Hoivik for her services on the Assimilation Board.
- The School Board has submitted a request to the Endowment Committee for a loan of \$35,000 to finance the purchase of playground equipment at the Child Care to be paid back in 3 to 4 years, plus an interest rate of about 2%. They also requested a grant of \$6,000 from their dividend fund.
- A Waiver must be approved to waive the Endowment Rule. PAM REPLINGER MADE A MOTION TO ASK THE ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE TO WAIVE THE RULE PROHIBITION AND TO GRANT TO CHILD CARE A LOAD OF \$35,000 FOR EQUIPMENT TO BE PAID BACK IN 3 TO 4 YEARS. TIM BYRNE SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED. This will now be submitted to the Voter's Assembly for ratification.
- 2/3 of the Voter's will be required for approval. A mailing will go out with a ballot and stamped return envelope.
- Bud Harty will be asked to write a grant application to Thrivent for grant money.

TREASURER: Reports attached.

- There is now \$9,300.65 in the Wind/Hail Account.
- Offerings for the half year are less than last year, but the expenses are less too.

ASSIMILATION: Jane reported that new members had been called and the pictures taken. Deb Kueker is doing a great job.

OUTREACH: Carol reporting.

- 70 people attended the 4th of July picnic and had a great time. The free will offering did not cover the expenses.
- The Ice Cream Social, served by the Child Care Staff, will be August 14th, from 2-4pm.
- The Pioneer Days Parade is September 5th. The theme is "Spirit of Englewood".
- Would like to start a group for young adults/young families.
- Plan to have a new member dinner perhaps in January.
- Witness workshop will be held February 4th and 11th.
- February 19th will be Friendship Sunday.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION: Pam reported that VBS went very well with an average of 50 attending. 30 were from Child Care and 20 from the community.

SCHOOL BOARD: Bill reported the enrollment is lower in the summer. The VBS children will sing this Sunday.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

PASOTR'S LOAN: The loan agreement was presented. Pastor was given a loan of \$40,000 when he accepted the call to Redeemer. It included a 1.75% interest rate and he has been paying it off. BILL BOWERS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THIS AGGRTEEMENT, JANE HOIVIK SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED. The Elders and Council had approved this agreement. About \$33,200 remains and payments are deposited to the church account. This agreement, signed by Pastor, and co-signed by the Congregation Secretary, will be put into the safe deposit box at Englewood Bank.

The meeting adjourned at 9:10pm with a prayer by Pastor, the Lord's Prayer and the singing of the doxology.

Dorothy Sinowetski, Congregation Secretary

CHAT FROM THE KORHOR

The Ladies Guild wants to be certain that all are aware of the Gift Korhor located in our Fellowship Hall. This Gift Korhor is one of our continuing fundraising efforts, where we present for sale items donated by friends and family members, as well as cards and notes the Guild purchases for resale. In regards to that, please note the Korhor will soon be restocked with a selection of Christmas cards which can be purchased by the box or by the card. All the proceeds of the Korhor, of course, support the various projects of the Guild.

In line with the coming Christmas season, we would like to

mention if any members have small items which they would like to donate for resale through the Korhor, we have prepared space on the bottom shelves of our display cases for such items. You may simply place any unwanted treasures on any bottom shelf, we will then prepare and present them for sale in support of the Ladies Guild. Thank you for any gifts you may be able to make, and for your continued help and support for this important fundraising activity.

Thank you, Dolores Altmann

STEPHEN MINISTRY

We talk about Stephen Ministry beginnings every year but the magnitude of what happened with Stephen Ministry once it began never gets old because we see Christ in the midst of the development.

Pastor Kenneth C. Haugk, Ph.D was a new Pastor (LCMS) at a St. Louis congregation in 1975. He was overwhelmed with the needs of the congregation and decided to train people in the congregation willing to assist him in visiting the needy. He trained nine members and called them Stephen Ministers. (The name Stephen comes from St. Stephen, who was the first layperson commissioned by the Apostles to provide caring ministry to those in need, Acts 6). The members he trained were so enthused about the ministry they encouraged him to offer Stephen Ministry to other congregations. The members trained were a secretary, teacher, insurance agent, business woman, student, executive, homemaker, beautician and retiree. Over the next few years he traveled about training members of other congregations but he realized this was inefficient because he kept having to return to those congregations to train others. After the Stephen Ministers were trained there was little supervision. In 1978 he held the first Stephen Leader's Training Course. These Stephen Leaders then returned to their home congregation and trained and supervised their Stephen Ministers. Since that time Stephen Ministry has grown into a not-for-profit, Christian organization with a permanent home in St. Louis dedicated in 1998. There are now 11,000 congregations involved in Stephen Ministry, 500,000 trained Stephen Ministers and more than 1 million people have been recipients of a 1to1 relationship with a Stephen Minister. Millions of others have received the

care of a Stephen Minister in a less formal way.

Presently, Redeemer has 11 Stephen Ministers counting 3 Stephen Leaders. We began in 2005 and have visited 21 people with needs. Many of these 1to1 visits require long term commitment. There have been others needing a Stephen Minister who we have been unable to assist due to lack of available Stephen Ministers. The Stephen Ministers also visit the 7 shut ins, plus when we are able, visit those in the hospital. Others have also received Stephen Ministry in a less formal way. We also distribute "Journeying through Grief", a series of 4 booklets on grief distributed throughout the year.

Redeemer Stephen Ministry classes begin in January. We will be having more information about Stephen Ministry in our newsletter and bulletin. In November we have Stephen Ministry Sunday where more information will be forthcoming. Please feel free to approach us in church or call if you would like more information. We do have written information that we can make available to you immediately. Contacts: Carol Haupt 941-460-8830 or Carol Carlos 941-255-3354. Nancy Hall is also a leader but presently in MI. Other Stephen Ministers available on a Sunday are Dee Baird, Tim Frees, Sharon Grcevic, Sandy Sita, Joe Carlos. Beginning in October our other faithful Stephen Ministers will begin returning to sunny FL. They are Ed Doenges, Dottie LaMere, Ruth Speer.

We invite the entire congregation to discover more about Stephen Ministry and prayerfully consider becoming a Stephen Minister.

"Commit your way to the Lord, trust in Him, and He will act"
Psalm 37:5

Submitted by Carol Carlos

REMINDER

The Newsletter deadline for the October Newsletter is September 18th. Please have all your submissions to the church office by that time. Thank you. Electronic submissions are best sent to redemerfl@verizon.net

A SPECIAL THANK YOU

Thanks to all of our Redeemer family for your prayers and words of encouragement over the past months as we were dealing with my cancer treatments. May God bless all of you. Your sister in Christ, Eileen Zwick

STEWARDSHIP

A MONTH OF NEW BEGINNINGS

Next to January, September is probably one of the biggest and busiest start over months in the year. A number of congregational ministries which may have been on a summer break start up again. A new school year has started. It is interesting to note that September opens with Labor Day when we pause to thank God for honest and fruitful labor. Perhaps that is appropriate since things pick up after vacations and other summer activities and we have more opportunities for service.

September also marks the beginning of autumn and that will be a welcome change for many people who this past summer were impacted by a record number of tornados, serious flooding around major rivers, heat and drought that broke many records, along with many wild fires that caused so much destruction.

In spite of all the above problems God still richly blessed much of our country with seasonable weather so that seedtime and harvest prevailed and the activities of agriculture, commerce and transportation continued so that the earth was fruitful and yielded its increase to supply food for all of God's creatures. Praise God from Whom all blessings flow!

God's stewards appreciate new opportunities to start over again after life has become like a long, hot summer. In September many of God's faithful stewards can get involved with new and exciting volunteer activities in

their churches and communities. In September many of our students can begin one of their best years of learning. In September many of our churches and schools can get involved with some of the most exciting ministries in their history. A fresh start is always appreciated. The past is behind us; the future is still in front of us but the present is where we do our work as God's stewards. God has some great things in mind for us as His stewards.

He wants us to use our talents, our time, our resources and our relationships in ways that honor Him and bring blessings to those around us.

Sometimes we may feel like we just can't get started! We may feel inadequate to take on new challenges. We may remember when we have tried some bold ventures before and

they didn't work out. We can chase those negative thoughts away when we remember words like these from one of our well-known hymns:

*Let none hear you idly saying, "there is nothing I can do,"
While the multitudes are dying and the Master calls for
you. Take the task He gives you gladly, let His work your
pleasure be; Answer quickly when He calleth, "Here am I,
send me, send me." (LSB 826)*

So, keep your eyes open for some new opportunities to put your time, talents and resources to work for the Lord and His people, and when those opportunities come, **GO FOR IT!**



ATTENTION CRAFTER'S

The Assimilation Committee has purchased new Advent candles and holders for the Christmas Eve service. Over the years, we have accumulated 170 used white candles and holders. Instead of our disposing of them, we offer them to anyone who would like to have all or some of them, for crafting candles or whatever. Please contact the Church Office if interested.

Submitted by Avis Stuck

LADIES GUILD

The first meeting of the season will be held on Wednesday, October 5th at 12:30 pm in the Social Hall. It is planned as a "reorganizational meeting".

What type of meeting will that be? It is important that the ladies of Redeemer attend because at the present time there is a need for officers and volunteers. At the present time the only officers of the Ladies Guild are the President - Doris Dykhuizen, Treasurer – Avis Stuck and Program Chairman – Margie Cypher.

DID YOU KNOW?

*The adult female members of Redeemer Lutheran Church are all considered members of the Ladies Guild.

*The Advent and Lenten dinners offered to the members of Redeemer and served between services during the two seasons are prepared and served by the members of the Ladies Guild

*The gifts/bags given to the shut-in members at Christmas and Easter are prepared by the members of the Ladies Guild.

*The Easter Breakfast served on Easter morning between the worship services are prepared and served by the Ladies Guild members.

*The gift corner in the Social Hall where you can purchase all occasion cards, hand made gifts and small items is a project of the Ladies Guild.

*The Lutheran Bible Translators, Lutheran Braille Workers, Helping Hand of Englewood, Hope Seeds, the Prison Mission, and other Lutheran and Christian non-profit organizations of Englewood are supported by the members of the Ladies Guild.

*The L.W.M.L. is supported by the mite boxes and contributions from Ladies Guild members.

*The quilting group of Redeemer is supported by the Ladies Guild.

*The Christmas Gift Tree for the children of the Child Care is a project of the Ladies Guild.

*Volunteer workers at the Englewood Helping Hand are members of the Ladies Guild.

YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THE OCTOBER MEETING OF THE LADIES GUILD and perhaps you will consider serving as an officer (VICE PRESIDENT, SECRETARY) or the chairman of one of the committees. The future of the Ladies Guild depends on **you**.

Submitted by Margie Cypher

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

As the school year has begun our Sunday School begins a new focus for Fall, that being the study of the Old Testament. It is a wonderful opportunity for the children to understand how God's plan of salvation for His people was already being woven together for us in the Old Testament, in the promise of His Son, Jesus. We will begin our fall curriculum on Sunday, September 4, 2011. There will be some wonderful opportunities for your children to Grow in Christ at Sunday School over the Fall quarter.

We will be welcoming our students and Sunday School staff at our Installation/ Annual Rally Day on Sunday September 25 immediately following the 9:15 AM service. I encourage the ENTIRE congregation to come join the children and Sunday School teachers to offer your support for this very important program at Redeemer. It is vital to have strong Christian examples in a child's life, you may touch a child forever by being a part of this ministry at Redeemer! Bring a hungry belly as we will have lots of food and plenty of games and even a Bounce House for the children!

Please be aware of upcoming dates for your home calendar:

- Sunday, September 4, 2011-Fall curriculum begins
- Sunday, September 25, 2011-Installation and Rally Day
- Sunday, October 2, 2011-back to 2 services with Sunday School in between at 9:15.
- Sunday, October 30, 2011- Sunday School children will be singing at the 10:30 service.

In Christ,
Lisa Kress



PRAYERS

SHUT-INS: Marjorie Boliere, Gloria Carlson, Evelyn Etheridge, Ruth Jansch, Leona Morrison, Jim Prather, and Ruth Sutley.

HEALING: Members: Cecil Grahl, Bernice Heppner, Dick & Lorraine Hughes, Bob Johnson, Lessie Kirch, Cliff Larsen, Gary Lute, Sandy McGrath, Clara Mitchell, Herb Petersen, Don Plesner, Duwayne Schoeneck, Ed Sita, Marie Talley, Ronald Woller, Eileen Zwick.

Friends & Relatives: Lorraine Agens, Noel Antonelli, Linny Aspery, Mary Beaber, Grace Blum, Georgia Bush, Jack & Cathy Carlos, Ted Carr, Bobbett Clark, Carly DeFeos, Renee Dempsey, John Denick, Irene DiTommaso, Nick Frees, Manual Galan, Glenn Galway, Malia Grayer, Ellen Hammerschlag, Debbie Harrison, Larry Headun, Claudette Hendershot, Glory Herget, Bill Hillis, Robin Hincman, Tom Holt, Stanley Jablonski, Douglas Johnson, Heather Johnson, Betty Kabert, Rachel Kagay, Marinela Kandt, Julie Keck, Jim Lane, Denise Lines, Sean Maki, Elsie Malecki, Dan Mason, Joe Manson, Patrick McCord, Pete Mogg, Linda Mohr, John Molle, Kaye Gene Mortenson, Ann Nagel, Judy Nagel, Rev. Gary Nehring, Dan Niemann, Darwin & Noreen Oliver, Charles Pentecost Jr., Ronnie Powers, Mary Raines, Sherrie Rhoades, Delaney Saunders, Nancy Sly, Debbie Speer Smith, Michael Stio, Eva Tabbitas, Samantha Jo Ann Toth, Phyllis Tucker, Helen Weishaar, Cindy Whitaker, Gordan Winkel, Reece Withers.

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

GREETERS

4th: Erwin Janke

11th: Rich Kueker

18th: Tim Byrne

25th: Carolyn Jordan

COFFEE HOUR

4th: Gudrun Janke

11th: Carolyn Jordan

18th:

25th: Mary Ann Frees



THE NEW CHILD CARE PLAYGROUND IS COMING!



FROM THE TREASURER'S DESK

**2011 Church Actual vs. Budget
Through July 31, 2011**

OFFERINGS BUDGET
\$147,555.94

OFFERINGS RECEIVED
\$123,692.82

EXPENSES
\$125,041.18

CHILD CARE NEWS

Bible Lessons

Chapel is on Mondays at
3:45

9/6 God's Promise to Noah

Genesis 8:1-9:17

9/12 God Calls Abram

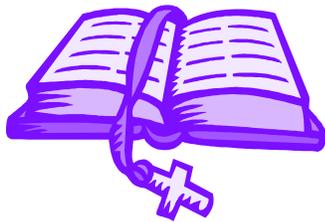
Genesis 12:1-9

9/19 Abraham and Isaac

Genesis 12:22:1-19

9/26 Jacob's Family

Genesis 29:1-30:24



[Jesus said,] "I am with you always."

Matthew 28:20

Submitted by Wendy Horvath

Birthdays

Olivia C. 9/5

Reagan 9/5

Brandon 9/7

Ryan 9/14

Alexandria 9/15

Alyssa 9/21

Angel 9/26



Welcome to Redeemer Child Care

Joseph S. Olivia,
Reagan, Clayton, Angel,
Yosselin, Logan and
Aidan

Child Care Closed

Closed on Sept. 5 for
Labor Day



What We Are Learning

Sept. 12-23 Workers, Tools and Uniforms

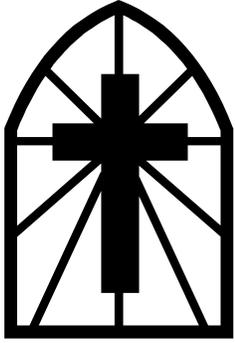
Sept. 26-Oct. 7 How Much is that Doggie

A Great Big Thank You!

Thank you to the Voters at Redeemer Lutheran Church for approving our Playground loan. The children and staff are so grateful for your kindness and generosity. We are looking forward to our new playground that will be finished by the end of October.



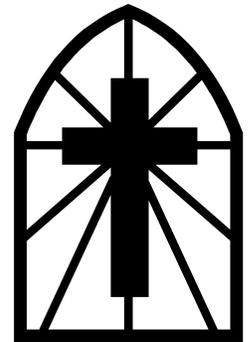
NEW MEMBERS



Erna Abel

*262 Fairway Road
Rotonda West, FL 33947
(941) 697-8889*

Erna is originally from Wisconsin. She enjoys sewing and crossword puzzles.



Ethel (Mickie) Abel

*259 Fairway Road
Rotonda West, FL 33947*

Mickie is originally from Pennsylvania and enjoys drawing, painting, reading and computer games.

ICE CREAM SOCIAL 2011!



CLASSIFIEDS**Beautician/Manicurist**

Debbie Balogh	Purple Palace	941-475-0731
Linda Pontello	Purple Palace	941-475-0731

Sales—Rentals

Pineapple Gulf Properties—Glenda McDorman, Owner/Broker (Lessie Kirch's Daughter) 880 S. McCall Road Englewood, FL 34223.
Office: 941-473-0300, Cell: 941-330-7922.

Wanted

Work any job from A-Z, nothing is too big or small; cleaning, cooking, babysitting, yard work! Please call Sheryl (Twombly) Holden at 941-928-5238.

Cleaning Services

Free estimates! Please contact Sheila Murphy at 941-473-1747.

Lawn Care

Call John Zimmerman at 941-445-0772 for a free estimate.

**A MESSAGE FROM YOUR THRIVENT REPRESENTATIVE ABOUT
DIRECT THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS**

Giving back makes an important impact in people's lives. Last year alone, Thrivent Financial provided more than \$100 million to help congregations, communities and individuals in need. Members who own Thrivent Financial products help make this support possible.

Thrivent Choice lets you recommend where some of Thrivent Financial's charitable outreach funds go by directing Choice DollarsSM and by participating in Voting Events. Contact Tim Byrne at 941-488-0625.

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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: 10:30 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.