

REDEEMER REPORTER

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH & CHILD CARE - APRIL 2013

“SAD ... AND HAPPY”

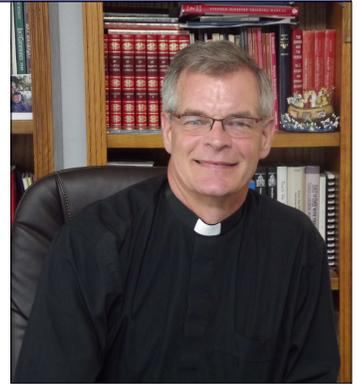
It doesn't really ever come to us as a big shock. We experience the same thing each time. It's like clock work. What on earth am I talking about? Well, at this time every year we say good-bye to our northern friends. Indeed, we are sad to see them leave, but we look forward with great anticipation to their return next fall and we are happy again.

But there's more to just saying good-bye to our northern friends each year. How so? Because they become more than just friends, they become family. Year after year we get to know one another a little bit more, and we become a little bit closer. Like a member of the family we care very much about their health – spiritual as well as physical. We enjoy each other's company. We golf together, shop together, fish together, quilt together, play cards together, go to the beach together, and maybe even have dinner together. In addition, we also worship together, we hear the saving Gospel message through Christ centered sermons, and we receive the very body and blood of Christ in the Sacrament of the Altar. We do not neglect in meeting together as some are in the habit of doing. (Hebrews 10:25) We remain, with the help of God, Christ centered and cross focused.

The sad and happy experience is not limited to just saying good-bye to our northern brothers and sisters in Christ. We also experience the sad and happy times when a loved one, a believer in Christ, is taken from us. To be sure, we are sad, very sad because our desire is to have our loved one remain with us. If you feel this way, you are not alone. This is natural and normal for us to have such feelings.

Yet, we are comforted by God's holy Word knowing that our loved ones, who have confessed their faith in Christ Jesus, have passed from death into everlasting life. (John 5:25) Furthermore, all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death. We were buried therefore with Him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. Since we have been united with Him in a death like His, we shall certainly be united with Him in a resurrection like His. (Romans 6:3-5) And thus we are made happy because we shall be reunited with our loved ones who confessed their faith in Jesus Christ alone for salvation. We are overjoyed even thinking about that glorious reunion.

And then there are other things going on in our society that make us sad, very sad, to the point that it brings us to despair, with no sign of our ever becoming happy again. Not only is the moral fabric of our society being cut to shreds each passing day, but also the teaching and practice among Christian church bodies and individuals.



Since Roe v Wade in 1973, Americans have put to death more than 55 million unborn children, that in and of itself is disturbing. Yet, last month we heard since 1971, China, as a result of its one child policy, has aborted more than 336 million unborn children, not to mention the 196 million sterilizations during that same time period. The magnitude of these numbers is staggering. The population of the United States is just over 315 million ... sad, very sad.

The attack on the natural order of creation and procreation has also moved some Americans to push an agenda giving legalization of same sex marriage. Don't be fooled. This issue of same sex marriage isn't about equality. It is about destroying biblical values, it is about destroying Christianity, it is about destroying the traditional family as we remember it. Ultimately this agenda will destroy the entire human race. We are killing ourselves by putting an end to the created natural order God put into motion in the beginning.

As a father and as a grandfather, I fear for my children and grandchildren and generations that will follow. If the things of this world continue in this manner, there will be absolutely no hope for our children and grandchildren and all future generations to live a natural, traditional, godly lifestyle without persecution, imprisonment, or even death. Yes, this is sad, so very sad.

God's Word gives us a picture of what lies ahead for those who live or support such an ungodly agenda. The Apostle Paul writes, "Do you not remember that when I was still with you I told you these things? And now you know what

Continued on Page 3

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Pastor	Rev. James Kress
Seasonal Pastor	Rev. Mark Steinke
LHM Ambassador	Rev. Earl Schmidt
Child Care Director	Wendy Horvath
Office Secretary	Susan Moore
Organists	Bill Bowers Lanette Schmidt
Choir Director	Doris Dykhuizen
Newsletter Editor	Susan Moore

OFFICERS

President	Rich Kueker
Vice President	
Treasurer	Judy Murphy
Secretary	Betty Clemens

BOARDS

Head Elder	Tim Byrne
Assimilation	Deb Kueker
Property Mgmt	
Christian Ed.	Pam Replinger
Human Care	Carol Carlos
Outreach	Ty Schulte
School Board	Bill Bowers
Stewardship	
Youth	Dan & Rebecca Fernandez
Financial Secretary	Karen Kirkland

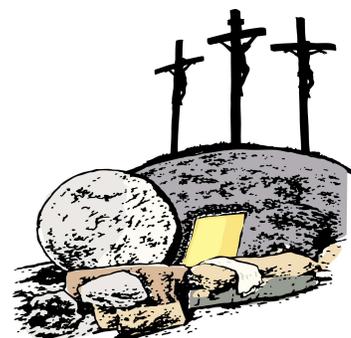
CLUBS/GUILDS

Ladies Guild	Sally Zierdt
Men's Group	Bob Mortenson

What a blessing to be part of a congregation with the diversity of talent that we have at Redeemer! Facing the formidable challenge of publishing a new directory, our committee not only produced a beautiful end-product, but also completed the task two weeks earlier than hoped and at a significant cost savings than anticipated. By this time, most of our members have already picked up their copy. For our members who have not yet picked up their free copy or for those members who would like an additional copy, copies are available in the church office (an additional pictorial at our cost of \$10.00, non-pictorial directories are free). We give thanks for the stewardship of time, talent, and funds that made this endeavor possible.

For our associate members and guests who blessed us this season, we wish a safe journey to your northern homes and look forward to your return next season.

God Bless,
Rich



Continued from page 1 ... "SAD ... AND HAPPY"

is restraining, that he may be revealed in his own time. For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only He [The Lord] who now restrains will do so until He [Jesus] is taken out of the way. And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord will consume with the breath of His mouth and destroy with the brightness of His coming. The coming of the lawless one is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders, and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because **they did not receive the love of the truth**, that they might be saved. And for this reason God will send them strong delusion, that **they should believe the lie**, that they all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness" (2 Thessalonians 2:5-12, *emphasis mine*).

We cannot continue to remain silent concerning the obliteration of these core moral, ethical, familial, and biblical values. We need to speak out, but speak out with humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. (Ephesians 4:2-3).

God's Word is clear concerning the killing of the unborn, including those who are unable to defend themselves (Genesis 9:6; Exodus 20:13; et al). His Word is also clear concerning the homosexual lifestyle (Romans 1:18-32; 1 Corinthians 6:9-10; et al), and He has clearly revealed to us what marriage is (Genesis 2:18-25; Ephesians 5:22-33; et al).

To be sure, there are other sins being committed daily of immoral, unethical, and unbiblical behavior. However, the godly, family value with those sins mentioned above are what is destroying our future, our children's future, and our grandchildren's future of ever living in freedom.

Still there is a happy side to all of this. The moral decay of our world, our country, our society, our culture, and even our Christian churches is only for a momentary period of time. We live here on earth; we are given life in order that our lives may be useful for God's work in bringing the Good News of Jesus to others, in speaking the truth in love to our neighbor. We need to speak of Christ's forgiveness

for all sin. The individual who struggles with sins past or present need to hear of God's love for them. We need to be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave us. (Ephesians 4:32)

Our happy time will come, but it will not be short-lived, rather it will be for us an eternity. That Day will come and we shall see a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth will pass away. And we shall see the holy city, the New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And we shall hear a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be His people, and God Himself will be with them as their God. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away." And He who is seated on the throne will say, "Behold, I am making all things new. It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end." But we shall not see a temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. And the city will have no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and its lamp is the Lamb. By its light will the nations walk, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it, and its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there. They will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. But nothing unclean will ever enter it, nor will anyone who does what is detestable or false, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life. (Revelation 21)

This is the grand reunion we shall all look forward to experiencing. This is the promise of God for you and all who truly repent of their sin and believe Jesus death on the cross washed away your sin and that His resurrection from the dead has opened heaven's gate that you may enter when He calls you to be with Him in His presence and with all those who have gone before you. We live in sadness, but there awaits for us eternal happiness and joy. A blessed Easter Season to all.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Kress



THANK YOU.....



Thank you to all who sent cards, called and most especially prayed for me during my recent back surgery! I could feel all the prayers that were "sent up" for me and for a while there, the need was great! I've come a long way and am continuing to heal. God is good! – Marj Sterriker, former member at Redeemer

BOARD OF COMMUNITY & PARISH FELLOWSHIP

Anyone interested in exploring a very rewarding experience in giving back to the community and to the church, please prayerfully consider joining the Board of Community & Parish Fellowship. If you have any questions feel free to contact me via e-mail at JesusRocks01@yahoo.com or you can call me at (941) 286-4122. We have a meeting once a month on the last Thursday of each month @ 7 PM. Please feel free to attend.

Submitted by Ty Schulte, Chairman



ASSIMILATION

By the time you receive this newsletter, hopefully you also will have your personal copy of our new pictorial directory. As I mentioned in last month's article, it truly was a labor of love for all those participating in its creation. As our church continues to grow with new members, their pictures and information can easily be inserted.

Also, we have had more new members come on board (3/17):

By way of transfer: Michael Currey

By way of confirmation: Brian Abel

Associate Members: Ralph and Wila Bockstahler, Dotti Massei, Jim and Bonnie Schluentz, and Shirley Wagner

As always, check out their smiles in our directory and display case in the Narthex. Say hello during our Coffee/Fellowship Time. Or invite them to our next church event. Don't forget that lots of our committees/boards would welcome (and need) extra willing hands. Ask if they might enjoy 'pitching in' somewhere, and getting involved.

Soon the migration back north will begin again. We will, once again, be waving farewell to all our winter visitors and associate members here at Redeemer. We will truly miss them!!!! We will once again resume our one service on Sunday. But hey, that means 'less time' (smile) if one volunteers for our Coffee Hour. Sign up sheet is awaiting you, in the Narthex.

Submitted by Deb Kueker, Chairman

The deadline for the May Newsletter is April 21st.

***Please have all your submissions sent to REDEEMERFL@VERIZON.NET
by the time indicated above.***

Thank you.

FROM THE TREASURER'S DESK

February 2013

<i>Income</i>	<i>Expense</i>
\$26,804.06	\$18,238.01

PROPERTY APPRECIATION DAY

Please join us for our next monthly "Property Appreciation" Day on the second Saturday of the month, April 13th!!! We begin at 8:00 AM and continue until the last person has to go for the day. Join us in keeping our buildings and properties beautiful. There's a little something to do for anyone who is willing to help... We would like to thank everyone for all their hard work each month. THANK YOU!-Board of Property Management

LOST AND FOUND

If anyone is missing any items, namely eyeglasses, gloves, umbrellas, etc., please check the Lost & Found box located in the narthex.

LADIES GUILD/LWML

Thanks to Pastor Schmidt for the program in March.

We will not have a regular meeting in April due to the Zone Rally being held on April 6th. If you have not already signed up to attend, please see Vicky Davis. These Rally events are very good. You don't want to miss. See the write ups that Vicky has been putting in the newsletter and the bulletins on Sundays. Our Church is hostess and we would like to have a good attendance.

We are having a Salad lunch on May 1st at 12:00 PM to end the year. Everyone attending is asked to bring a SALAD to share. There will be a short business meeting to discuss any unfinished business. We know some our winter members will already be gone, but please attend if you are in the area.

Submitted by Lessie Kirch

SINGLES LUNCHEON

April's lunch will be held on the 9th. Please sign up on the sheet in the Narthex. A good lunch was enjoyed by 10 in March at Ricaltini's. Our April lunch is being held at Compadre's Mexican Restaurant located at 498 W. Dearborn St., Englewood. We will meet at 11:30 AM. Watch for coupons which are sometimes in items you receive in the mail or in the Newspaper.



CARE NOTES



Don't forget to check out the Care Notes booklets in the Narthex. There are many helpful booklets to choose from.

Submitted by KC Wright

LADIES GUILD/LWML

MITE BOX IN NARTHEX APRIL 7, 2013

Jesus Loves the Children! Little Change=Lots of Good! Change in purse or pocket (and BILLS too) put into the Mite Box in the Narthex today will help share the Gospel of Jesus Christ with children and families all over the world. Your gifts to LWML Mites, along with your prayers will be used in amazing ways to make eternal changes in the lives of many! A \$10,000 grant for Gospel Outreach to At-risk Children will be funded with Mites given by women & men in Florida. Please take a complimentary Mite Box.

Submitted by Vicky Davis



THURSDAY SENIOR FELLOWSHIP

We would love to have you join us for a fun time of playing cards from 10:00 until Noon. We can use more players. There are several different games we play, take your choice. Followed by games, we break for lunch. Presently everyone is brown bagging. Dessert, coffee and tea are furnished. Tell your friends and join us!

Submitted by Lessie Kirch

REDEEMER T-SHIRTS



**REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH
T-SHIRTS
FOR SALE!**

Our NEW Redeemer t-shirts are available for purchase. The cost of each shirt is \$8.00. If you don't already have a Redeemer T-Shirt, please think about purchasing one. You can wear them at any of our community events, such as our upcoming Charlotte Stone Crabs Faith Night baseball game. This is an easy method of advertising our church. If you would like to purchase one, you can see either Karen Kirkland or Susan Moore in the Church Office. Different sizes for male and female are available.

Submitted by Board of Community & Parish Fellowship

KRAFT KORNER

Please bring any donations for the Kraft Korner shelves that can be sold during the LWML Spring Rally on Saturday, April 6th. Please place the items you bring in by the shelves in the Fellowship Hall.

Submitted by Lessie Kirch



REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING - FEBRUARY 11, 2013

PRESENT: Rich Kueker, Pastor Kress, Bill Bowers, Pam Replinger, Karen Kirkland, Judy Murphy, Deb Kueker, Ty Schulte, Dan Fernandez, Betty Clemens. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by President Rich Kueker. Pastor Kress opened with a prayer.

MINUTES of January 14, 2013 meeting were reviewed. Deb Kueker requested the phrase "leaving March open for Coffee Hour and Greeters." be deleted. Carol Carlos was added to those present. **BILL MOVED, JUDY SECONDED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES AS PRESENTED AFTER CHANGES. MOTION CARRIED.**

CALENDAR for March was presented. The Elders Meeting on March 5th will be at 6:30 instead of 6:00. Pam requested the Christian Education Meeting on March 12th be taken off the schedule because she will be out of town.

REPORTS

PASTOR - Reports attached.

*Pastor and Lisa attended the March for Life LCMS Conference in Washington DC in January.

*Small Group Studies are being offered.

*Season of Lent Schedule: Wednesday, Feb. 13th ASH WEDNESDAY (4:30 & 7:00 PM) Imposition of Ashes & Holy Communion

Midweek Services-Feb. 20th, 27th, Mar. 6th, 13th & 20th

Holy Week: Maundy Thursday-March 28th

Good Friday-March 29th

*Seasonal Pastor Schedule: Preaching Sunday, Feb. 17th, Mar. 10th and Apr. 21st.

*Choir Director stepping down, Doris Dykhuizen retiring Sunday, April 7th. Something will be planned for her. The Elders will handle the acquisition of a new choir director since this is a very delicate situation.

*Nominations for Regional V.P., First V.P. and President are due Wednesday, February 20th for the Synod. **PAM MADE A MOTION TO NOMINATE MATTHEW C. HARRISON FOR PRESIDENT AND HERBERT C. MUELLER, JR. FOR V.P. BILL SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED. DEB MADE A MOTION TO NOMINATE ROBERT T. KUHN FOR REGIONAL V.P. FOR THE EAST-SOUTHEAST REGION, SECONDED BY KAREN. MOTION CARRIED.** The nominations were signed by the President and Secretary and made ready to mail.

*Pastor informed us of the incident in Newtown where Pastor Morrison joined with other religions at a prayer service for the Sandy Hook victims. He has apologized and all was handled properly within our Synod. He has apologized and all was handled properly within our Synod. However, the news media made a big issue of this and they did not make it look good for the LCMS. Anyone can read the letters of response from our Synod on WMLTblog.

PRESIDENT: A \$6000 grant from the Endowment Committee was approved for the Child Care playground. **PAM MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THIS GRANT, SECONDED BY BILL. MOTION CARRIED.** Rich Kueker will not be able to attend the March meeting on March 10th and suggested the Chairman of the Elders preside in his place.

ELDERS: No report. Council members were asked if they prefer lights on during sermon. 7 preferred the lights dimmed.

TREASURER. Reports attached.

HUMAN CARE BOARD: Report attached.

*Greeting cards-Nine mailed to shut-ins, one to military family in Germany

*Small Group Study-Leaders & Topics were chosen. Members are being asked to sign up.

*Human Care Board will have directory picture taken on 2-10-13 at 9:30 a.m.

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT: No Report Submitted.

ASSIMILATION: February meeting was cancelled. Group photo will be taken on 2-10-13 at 9:30 a.m. The directory is moving along very well.

COMMUNITY & PARISH FELLOWSHIP: Report attached. Ty Schulte is always looking for new ideas.

*Held the Share your Faith workshop on Sat. Feb. 2nd and Sat. Feb. 9th

*Preparations are being made for the Easter Egg Hunt on March 31st. Volunteers are needed.

*A table is set up in the Narthex in February for recruitment and informing members of the Board's activities.

Continued on Page 8

(Continued from page 7)

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION: No report

YOUTH: No report. Dan reported they visited the Habitat for Humanity. Will meet again on the 14th. Will get involved in the Crop Walk.

SCHOOL BOARD: Report attached. Bill said everything is running smoothly. Two water fountains were repaired and one was removed. The trike track will begin construction. Help is needed for the Golf Outing on March 2nd. County inspection will take place this month. All bills are paid.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Pastor Kress has not had the time to look into a new sound system. Bill requested an additional musical input.

JUDY MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN, SECONDED BY PAM. MOTION CARRIED.

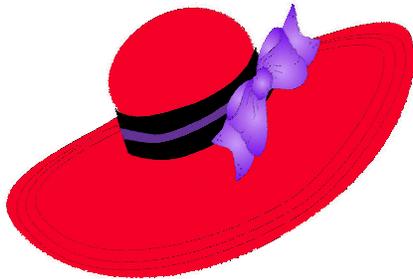
The meeting closed at approximately 8:05 by gathering hands and singing of the Doxology.

Respectfully Submitted,

Betty Clemens

Congregation Secretary

REDEEMER RED HATS



The Redeemer Red Hats will have their luncheon on Tuesday, April 23rd at 12:00 Noon. Please see the sign up sheet in the Narthex for more information.

BAKELESS BAKE SALE

A sincere THANK YOU for your generous donations to our annual Bakeless Bake Sale. A total of \$516.00 was collected and sent to the local not for profit organization, Project Phoenix.

REDEEMER LADIES GUILD/LWML.



BAKELESS BAKE SALE

SUNDAY ADULT BIBLE CLASS



Many scientists teach us that we have much evidence that the world was made millions of years ago. The Bible teaches us that we have much evidence that the world was made thousands of years ago. In an interview, Bill Nye the "Science Guy" told the world that anyone who would teach their child that the world is not billions of years old should be accused of child abuse. Who is right? Bill Nye and many other scientists or the Bible telling the account of someone who was actually present at creation? Come to Bible Study on Sundays between the services as Rev. Steinke leads us in a study of Genesis 1-11, from Creation to Noah. *Submitted by Rev. Mark Steinke*

PRAYERS



SHUT-INS: Marjorie Boliere, Evelyn Etheridge, Erv Maki, Clara Mitchell, and Ruth Sutley.

HEALING: Members: Bill Balogh Jr., Ermand Citrone, Fred Fernald, Bernice Heppner, Marva Jonas, Charles Malecki, Sandi McGrath, Ron Ratzlaff, Michael Sanders, Duwayne Schoeneck, Ty Schulte, Sandy Sita, Edda Specht, Marie Talley, and Ronald Woller.

Friends & Relatives: Michael Aldene, Linny Aspery, Jean Bajner, Family of Betty Bertka, Grace Blum, Georgia Bush, Alexis Capehart, Jack & Cathy Carlos, Family & Friends of Gloria Carlsen, Debbie Carr, Esther Clapham, Bobbett Clark, Lee & Ute Daniels, Damien DiDomenico, Renee Dempsey, John and Irene DiTommaso, Barb Dumeah, Family of Katherine Fogt, Manual Galan, Glenn Galway, Nancy Gleis, Lucas Hall, Debbie Harrison, Larry Headun, Claudette Hendershot, Joel Heppner, Walter Heppner, Glory Herget, David Hirtle, Tom Holt, Linda Hunter, Stanley & Lynne Jablonski, Debbie Jackson, Carl Jennejahn, Douglas Johnson, Heather Johnson, Rachel Kagay, John Kearns, Bill Keller, Mary Krueger, Jim Lane, Denise Lines, Harold Lowe, Don Luffingwell, Sean Maki, Elsie Malecki, Joe Manson, Pete Mogg, Linda Mohr, Mike Morrissey, Kaye Gene Mortenson, Pastor Dennis Neigh, Maureen Nesvacil, Dan Niemann, Family & Friends of Gretchen Ocock, Darwin & Noreen Oliver, Charles Pentecost Jr., Mary Raines, Ryan Sheahan, Joey Sigfrid, Nancy Sly, Debbie Speer Smith, Family & Friends of Joey Smith, Virginia Stanley, Gary Stokes, Sarah Sturzenbecker, Eva Tabbitas, Samantha Jo Ann Toth, George Vespa, Dick Voelker, Pat Vovcsko, Tom Watkins, Helen Weishaar, Gordan Winkel, Reece Withers, Angel Zavala.

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 so that we may either keep or remove their name. Thank you.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

We would like to extend an invitation to all the children of Redeemer Lutheran Church and to all the children of the Child Care to join us on Sundays for Sunday School. This invitation also extends to all children in the area as well. If you know any children who would enjoy learning about the Lord, please invite them to attend. We look forward to seeing more and more children join us and experience the love of Our Lord, Jesus Christ, as we learn about the things he has done for us!



Submitted by Redeemer Lutheran Church Sunday School

MEN'S BREAKFAST



The Men will again be gathering for their monthly breakfast. We will meet the 2nd Monday of each month at Country Hound Café at 7 AM. Come and join us for breakfast and fellowship. All men are welcome to join us. For more information please contact Charles Malecki (941) 697-0976.

CLASSIFIEDS

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.

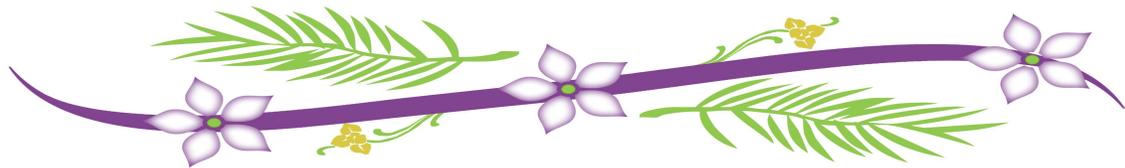
Cleaning Services Free estimates! Please contact Sheila Murphy at 941-473-1747.

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 941-882-2725 or (941) 474-7755!

For Sale Set of Golf Cubs with golf bag & plastic storage case. Clubs are both Spalding & Pro Extreme - \$75.00. Please call Martha Winters at 941-697-7373.
Queen size Hide-A-Bed sofa - \$150.00, Kawai Electric-Digital-Piano Organ \$800 like new, Round coffee table - \$50.00 (2’ 4” high-with center shelf), Old oak 3 drawer chest on wheels - \$35.00, Area rug 5’6” by 7’10” - \$50.00. Call Joyce 585-880-4783



GREETERS	
Apr. 7th:	Stephen Ministry
Apr. 14th:	Stephen Ministry
Apr. 21st:	Stephen Ministry
Apr. 28th:	Stephen Ministry
<i>Submitted by Assimilation</i>	

COFFEE HOUR	
Apr. 7th:	Lois Webster Marion Buie
Apr. 14th:	James & Susan Moore
Apr. 21st:	Donna Wolf
Apr. 28th:	Donna Wolf
<i>Submitted by Assimilation</i>	

STEPHEN MINSITRY

The Call To Care, Cont.

How many times have we all wished for some pain to go away in someone's life? You want to make them feel better. A natural, loving response. Then we think their difficult, painful struggle through and decide what we're going to say and how we are going to help. We are going to make them feel better. We want to impose our thoughts and feelings to them. **WRONG!** Suffering people do not respond to quick fixes or easy solutions. It's best to "be with" that person and not "act for" that person. Fixing things is a very human tendency and that is fine if it is fixing dinner, the vacuum cleaner or etc.. A good rule to follow when helping someone is "fix things; relate to people". Remember, God removes the pain in His time. You just be with the hurting person listening and caring consistently.

If this interests you we invite you to join our Stephen Ministry classes that will begin April 8, 2013. For further information please call Carol Carlos 941-255-3354 or Carol Haupt 941-460-8830.

"Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves" - Hebrews 12:10

Submitted by the Board of Stephen Ministry



HUMAN CARE

The Human Care Board continues with many endeavors. We visit members in long term facilities. We have our Care Notes in the narthex that are renewed every few months. These are helpful to children and adults. Stop by and take some home. Our Senior Fellowship continues on Thursday mornings in the fellowship hall with games. Bring a bag lunch. You are all invited. The Redeemer Singles Luncheon meets once a month at various local restaurants for fellowship and good food. Signup sheets are located in the narthex. Stephen Ministry visits members and nonmembers having struggles in their life. There are cards in the red book located in the church pew for more information. New classes for Stephen Ministry begin April 8th. Come join us. It's never too late. Blood donations continue every few months. Give a life to someone and donate in the Red Bus at church. One pint of your blood will help three people. Blood pressures continue the last Sunday of every month between services. Avail yourself of this service. We still need medical personnel to help take blood pressures. Greeting cards and personal wishes continue to be mailed to our shut ins and military personnel. These are handmade painted cards with lots of love and care. Our small groups have begun in February and are a success. Join a group and learn more about how our God can help you in your life. Be encouraged and receive support and care from your group. Of course, the last part of the group involves some delicious food. We Lutherans couldn't do without that. The crop walk happens yearly. The group raised over \$1000 for the hungry of America.

A lot happens in the Human Care Group and those responsible for all of this loving work are;

Mary Blakley, Joan Bowers, Lessie Kirch, Deb Kueker, Carol Sheahan, Mary Kay Straw, KC Wright. We need to add Ed Sheahan to our group because Ed and Carol organize the Crop Walk for our church.

A big thank you to all of you for your caring, loving work at Redeemer and in the community.

"Share with God's people who are in need. Practice hospitality." — Romans 12:13

Submitted by The Human Care Board

FAITH NIGHT 2013



Friday, April 12th will mark this year's Faith Night at Charlotte County Sports Complex where the Charlotte County Stone Crabs play baseball.

There is a pre-game Christian concert followed by the entertaining baseball game.

If you would like to attend this even, please contact Dale Whipple (352-360-5124)

If you are in need of transportation to and from the ball park we will meet in the Redeemer Parking lot and depart at 5:30 PM for the game and pre-game activities.

Tickets are \$10 each, so call Dale as soon as possible. Also indicate to him your need of transportation.



LUTHERAN HOUR MINISTRY

JCPlayZone has a new look. When you arrive at www.jcplayzone.com, you might be surprised: it's an ark packed with goodies. You'll find a boatload of seafaring critters drifting about in search of kids -- and adults -- that are looking for fun!

In addition to Bible stories, music, games, cards, printable and online coloring pages, crafts, recipes and daily devotions, this gopher wood cruiser is now bearing parables, featuring some of the memorable stories Jesus told, accompanied by an illustration.

With **JCPlayZone**, sharing is easy. Just click on the bubble above the whale's head, and you can send a note with the **JCPlayZone** link to a buddy.

Rev. Earl Schmidt, Lutheran Hour Ministry Ambassador



YOUTH GROUP

Redeemer Youth Group would like to thank all the members of Redeemer Lutheran Church & Child Care for supporting them in their fundraiser dinner. Many thanks to Mike Guastella who prepared the delicious Anti-pasta and Baked Ziti dinner. Special thanks goes out to Lessie Kirch for being in the right place at the right time to help the Youth Board. The Redeemer Youth Group will have a Car Wash Fundraiser on Saturday, April 20th beginning at 8:00 AM until 12:00 Noon. Youth, Parents, and members of the Church & Child Care are encouraged to help in this event either by washing cars, having your care washed, or both. Our next Extended-Youth Meeting will take place on Thursday, April 11th at 5:30 PM in Fellowship Hall. If you have any questions, please contact Dan & Rebecca Fernandez (941-661-9825). Thanks again for all your help and support.

NEW MEMBERS



Brian Abel is married to Ethel 'Mickie' and he is also the son of Erna. Brian is employed by Charlotte County Clerk of Court at the Justice Center in Punta Gorda. Brian & Mickie reside at 259 Fairway Road, Rotonda West, FL 33947.



Ralph & Wila Bockstahler are members of St. Paul Lutheran Church, Caledonia, MI. They are both retired, but have been coming to Florida for many years. Ralph enjoys fishing and visiting friends. Wila is a seamstress and has been a faithful Redeemer morning quilter. They reside at 235 Rotonda West Blvd. #203, Rotonda West, FL 33947.

Dorothy 'Dotti' A. Massei is a member of Grace Lutheran Church, Chester, VA. Dotti and her late husband, Leo, have been coming to this area of Florida for a number of years. She resides on the ever-beautiful Manasota Key at 219 Bayo St., Englewood, FL 34223.



Jim & Bonnie Schleuntz are members of Grace Lutheran Church, Elk Rapids, MI. Jim is the son of the late Roy & Dorothy Schluentz, who were members of Redeemer years ago before being called home to glory. Jim is a retired school teacher and Bonnie continues to work hard as a homemaker.

Shirley Wagner is a member of St. Peter Lutheran Church, Columbus, IN. Shirley and her late husband, Dean, have been coming to Englewood for many years. She resides at 5080 North Beach Road, Englewood, FL 34223.



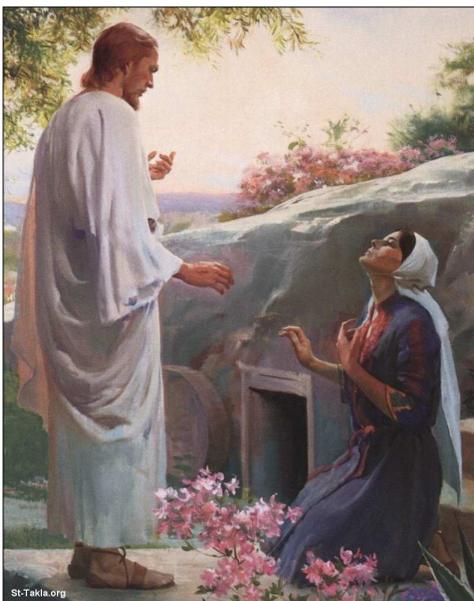
Michael Currey comes to us by way of transfer from Resurrection Lutheran Church, Pensacola, FL. He is married to his wife, Jo and they have a son, Jackson who is currently enrolled in our Child Care. Michael is a District Manager for Yamaha Motor

STEWARDSHIP

April is that time of year where in most parts of our country the color green starts showing up in yards, gardens, orchards and fields. The color green in nature is another reminder of the goodness of God in providing for the physical needs of all His creatures. The color green also reminds us that God keeps His promises, such as this one recorded in Genesis 8:22 (NIV): “As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease.”

God also made this promise of His goodness to the children of Israel as they were in the process of moving into the Promised Land: “If you follow my decrees and are careful to obey my commands, I will send you rain in its season, and the ground will yield its crops and the trees of the field their fruit. Your threshing will continue until grape harvest and the grape harvest will continue until planting, and you will eat all the food you want and live safely in your land.” (Leviticus 26:3-5 NIV)

God is so good that He also provides for the physical needs of those who do not believe in or worship Him as the only true God. Dr. Martin Luther reminded us of this when he explained the petition “Give us this day our daily bread” in this way: “God gives daily bread indeed without our prayer, also to all the wicked, but we pray in this petition that He would lead us to know it and to receive our daily bread with thanksgiving.”



In Isaiah 55:10-11 (NIV) we read these words: “As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return to it without watering the earth and making it bud and flourish, so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater, so is My word that goes out from My mouth: It will not return to Me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.”

This passage reminds us as God’s people that our God is both good and gracious. We see His goodness in meeting all our physical needs but we see His grace (undeserved love) in supplying all our spiritual needs. The Holy Spirit uses the reading, studying, preaching and teaching of God’s word to bring sinners to repentance and empower them to become the children of God. Children of God are His stewards who use everything at their disposal for God’s purposes. God’s stewards, like green plants, receive the necessary nourishment to grow in their faith and in producing good works, such as giving generously of the financial resources, time and unique abilities.

May all of us as God’s redeemed stewards, like plants on the earth, bud, blossom, mature and produce good fruit (words and actions) that brings glory to our good and gracious God and blessings to His people.

The Board of Stewardship

LIFE LINE SCREENING

Redeemer Lutheran Church is hosting a Life Line Screening event for the community on Friday, April 12th. Life Line Screening will perform ultrasound tests for stroke/carotid artery blockage, abdominal aortic aneurysm, peripheral arterial disease and osteoporosis risk. These non-invasive screenings are completely painless, take about 10 minutes each and are affordable. Screenings are recommended for anyone age 50 and older. Space is limited and pre-registration is required. Appointments are filling fast, so you may want to make your appointment soon. Sign up for this life-saving event through the new Helping Hand program. You will receive \$10 off any screening package of \$139 or more and Redeemer Lutheran Church will receive a matching \$10 donation for every member who signs up and attends this Life Line Screening event. You can register by calling **800-324-9458** or online at www.helpinghandsforhealth.com to take advantage of this special offer. Make your appointment today – it just may save your life. Look for the insert for more information.

CLASSES FOR INQUIRING MINDS

A number of you attending Divine Service here at Redeemer have inquired about membership to our church. Holy Scripture and the Confessions of the Lutheran Church show that fellowship is being one in spirit and one in doctrine (Ephesians 4:4-6). Jesus says, "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you" (Matthew 28:19-20).

Therefore, Redeemer Lutheran Church will provide classes for instruction for both children as well as adults. Our next session of Instruction Classes for adults will start **Tuesday, April 16th beginning at 7:00 pm**. These classes will run over a period of Tuesday's & Thursday's during the months of April and May. These classes will be conducted for a total of 10 required class periods according to the schedule below:

Tuesday, April 16th

Thursday, April 18th

Thursday, April 25th

Tuesday, April 30th

Thursday, May 2nd

Thursday, May 9th

Tuesday, May 14th

Thursday, May 16th

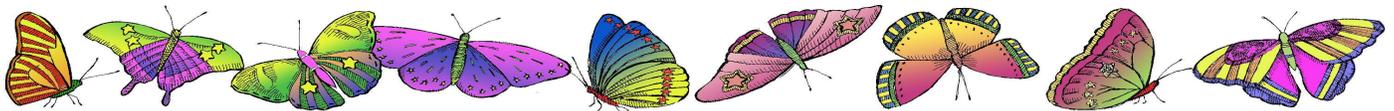
Tuesday, May 21st

Thursday, May 23rd

It is important that you attend all classes. In the event you are unable to make a class, please contact Pastor Kress at (941) 979-2976. At the completion of these classes you will have the opportunity to become a confirmed member of Redeemer Lutheran Church & Child Care through the Rite of Confirmation on **Sunday, May 26th at 9:15 AM**.

I look forward to seeing you not only during class time, but certainly during our worship services. If you have any questions, or if I can be of help with some specific need, please give me a call. These classes are also open to members, associate members, and those who simply have questions about what we believe, teach, and confess.

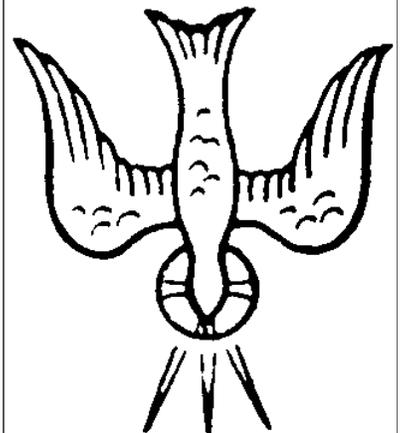
Yours in Christ,
Pastor Jim Kress



LADIES THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS

You may wonder: "Why didn't Jesus remain on earth instead of ascending into heaven? If Jesus were with us, we could ask Him questions and see His miracles. Life and faith would be so much easier!" Jesus has an answer for you: "It is to your advantage," Jesus said, "that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper shall not come to you; but if I go, I will send Him to you" (John 16:7). The "Helper" Jesus is talking about is the Holy Spirit.

We will once again use *GOOD NEWS* magazine as our guide through this amazing study about the purpose and work of the Third Person of the Holy Trinity, the Holy Spirit. Class continues on **Thursday Mornings at 10:00 AM** in the Fellowship Hall. All ladies are welcome to join us. You may also invite your girlfriend, sister, mother, and daughter.





Happy Easter from Redeemer Child Care

March 2013

Bible Lessons

Chapel is on Tuesdays
at 3:45 PM

4/2 Jesus Appears on the Emmaus Road

Luke 24

4/9 Jesus Appears to Thomas

John 20

4/16 Jesus Ascends into Heaven

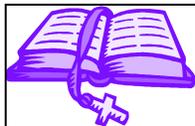
John 21; Acts 1

4/23 God Sends the Holy Spirit

Acts 2

4/30 Peter and John Heal the Lame Man

Acts 3



Dear Jesus, Thank You for going to prepare a wonderful home for me in heaven. Help me to listen to your word while I wait for You to come again. Amen.

Birthdays

4/7 Nicholas G.

4/7 Rylie

4/11 Aaden M.

4/14 Ms. Kristy

4/18 Rafael



Congratulations on your years of service!



Ms. Megan

1 year on April 5



Look for the Redeemer Child Care Cookie Dough Fundraiser coming soon!

What We Are Learning

4/1 Why is caring for the earth and sky important?

4/8 What are good healthy habits?

4/15 What kind of foods are healthy?

4/22 Why is exercise important?

4/15 How can I stay healthy?

Special Days in April

4/1 April Fool's Day

4/2 Picture Day

4/15 Income Tax Day

4/22 Earth Day

Welcome to Redeemer

Jackson, Jayden and Ethan

Submitted by Wendy Harvath

10 THINGS TODDLERS WISH THEY COULD TELL YOU

1. "Be sure to tell me about Jesus."

Small children are wide open to learning about Jesus in their preschool years. The Lord recognized this, as shown in Luke 10:15: "I tell you the truth, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter in." Teach your toddler children (and grandchildren) that Jesus is their friend; He loves them dearly and forgives them when they do wrong. Children and parents can grow together spiritually as toddlers learn to worship by watching. They will worship, sing and pray enthusiastically. Encourage them to pray in their own words.

2. "My attention span is limited."

It's fun to meet and greet neighbors in supermarket aisles, but your toddlers aren't interested in catching up on all the latest news. They'd rather wander, explore, touch. Instead of spending 15 minutes chatting next to the Oreos and Ding-Dongs, tell your friend you'll call when you get home.

3. "I'm afraid of strangers."

Few children appreciate being passed from lap to lap. Most prefer getting to know new people a little at a time—and on their terms. Be wary of forcing your toddler to accept strangers and new baby-sitters too quickly.

4. "I'm not a pet or a trained seal."

"Come on, honey, say 'Aunt Kathie.'" "Show Mrs. Dennis how you play pat-a-cake, Josh." "Sing that little song you learned at church for Grandma." These requests-to-perform place your toddler in a tough spot. Some small children delight in showing off. Others shrink away. If your child falls in the latter group, don't push him or her.

5. "Don't be embarrassed if I don't respond the way you hope I will."

There is no need to apologize for your small children if they cry when someone new picks them up, hide behind you during introductions or refuse to sit on Grandpa's lap when he hasn't visited in a long time. They aren't terrible kids. They're shy, frightened and unsure of themselves in new situations. Too many parents feel an unresponsive toddler reflects unfavorably on them, and they react accordingly.

6. "Handle me with care."

Toddlers may look sturdy, but they are still fragile. Overdone roughhousing, tossing babies in the air and jerking little arms and legs can damage young, growing bodies. Toddlers also need careful emotional handling. They can't always tell you if they're sick, cold, lonely or overly tired as easily as they can express hunger. Fussing is usually a symptom of something needing attention.

7. Don't compare me with others."

Each child is a unique person, created by God with his or her own timetable. Some learn to walk and say a few words in their first year. Others take longer. So what? Toddler development isn't a race—although, to hear some parents, it appears to be.

8. "I can't like everything you think I should."

Children need variety in their food, toys and other things. Provide several choices and give your toddlers an opportunity to learn decision-making.

9. "Let me be my own age."

Some toddlers behave so well that, on occasion, parents forget they aren't little women and little men. Remember, toddlers are just past babyhood, and they must not be expected to respond like miniature adults. Lead—don't push—your toddlers into each new stage of childhood. Enjoy them fully at ages 2, 3 and 4. Soon you'll wave your kindergartners off in the mornings and only the memories of their toddler days will remain.

10. "Walk in my small shoes."

Remember the children's game "Mother, May I"? One child played Mother; the rest started the game behind a line drawn on sidewalk or in the dirt. "Mother" stood in the distance, a second line in front of her. The first child to cross that second line won. The children took turns asking questions such as, "Mother, may I take three giant steps?" "Mother" might answer, "No, but you may take 10 baby steps." Even small children recognized babies and toddlers must take many steps with their short legs to keep up with the "giant steps" of big people. A sad sight at shopping centers and grocery stores is a hurried mother carrying a baby and half-dragging a toddler whose chubby little legs must run to keep up. Slow down while shopping with toddlers in tow. Or take a stroller for when their little legs tire.

While all 10 of these are things parents need to keep in mind, let's repeat the first—the most important: "Be sure to tell me about Jesus." God's blessings to you as you help your toddler learn and grow spiritually, intellectually, physically, emotionally and socially. Nurture them in the love of the Lord.

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REV. JAMES T. KRESS, SR.

REDEEMER REPORTER

Published monthly for members, Associate Members and Visitors of Redeemer Lutheran Church a member congregation of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod.

WORSHIP SERVICES:

November—April: 8:00 & 10:30 AM

Sunday School: 9:15 AM

Bible Study: 9:15 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.