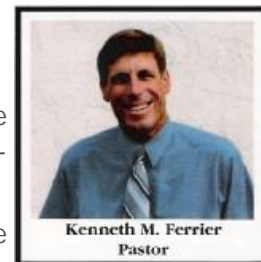


Safe!!



Kenneth M. Ferrier
Pastor

The month of May marks the official beginning of another "Hurricane Season". Thinking of the feelings of uncertainty and anxiety which arise whenever a hurricane threatens reminded me of an experience I had a number of years ago.

My son, Matthew, my brother-in-law, Joseph, and I were fishing for walleye a few miles offshore on Lake Erie. The forecast called for "a chance of occasional showers". A distant darkening in the heavy haze made it look like the chance of such a shower coming our way was becoming a certainty. "No problem", we thought. We had raingear onboard. Fishermen fish in the rain on a regular basis. Then came that "freshening breeze" which so often precedes a storm. "We'd better pull the lines", I said. Then the wind really kicked into high gear...and we heard the first ominous rumble of thunder off in the distance. "This isn't good", I thought.

In the few minutes it took to bring in all of our trolling lines (of course, some got tangled in the wind!), the surface of the lake had changed from a light chop to waves in the four foot range. My boat is sixteen feet long. You do the math. Unlike the familiar rolling swells of Lake Michigan, these waves came in rapid succession, drenching us with wind-driven spray with each impact. "This is BAD", I thought to myself. To my companions I said, "Make sure your lifejackets are strapped on tight!" (My son later informed me that that is when HE understood just how bad things were. In hundreds of previous outings he had never heard me issue such an order before.)

With the fishing lines finally cleared we were slowly trying to make our way toward shore. To make matters even worse, we had to head almost directly into the storm to make our way back to port. Poor Joseph was up in the bow serving as ballast to keep the wind from flipping us backwards. Matthew was at my side holding onto the gunwale for all he was worth. I was doing my best to angle into the swells, while the swells were doing their best to turn us broadside to disaster.

Would we make it back to shore? Would we be swamped? Would we die? Perhaps, perhaps, perhaps.

As it turned out, we did none of the above because right at that moment my son called out, "Look over there!". About one half mile to the east was a protruding land mass called "Stony Point". And on the lee side of that point lay a cove which was sheltered from the wind. Timing the waves, we made an abrupt about-face and "surf" into those sheltered waters.

Now we were safe from the wind and waves, but that lightning was still crackling all around us. As we edged our way along the shore looking through the driving rain for a place to beach the boat, a man came running down to the water's edge and beckoned us toward him. From his sunroom he had observed our plight and came down to guide us to a sandy beach where we could leave the boat and take cover in his home.

Which brings me to the reason why I'm relating all of this to you: "SAFE!" At the moment when we stepped out of the still-raging elements into this Good Samaritan's home I understood what a sweet feeling it is to be safe. The words of Psalm 27:5 tell us: *"For in the day of trouble He will keep me safe in His dwelling; He will hide me in the shelter of His tabernacle and set me high upon a rock."* There, "high upon the rock" of Stony Point, we were finally safe in the dwelling of this kind man.

Those words of Psalm 27 remind us that because of Christ's love and redemption we shall ultimately be found safe in God's dwelling place. Our Savior Himself promised that He has gone there to prepare a place for us, and that He will most certainly come to take us there. My boating experience...and a few hurricanes in more recent years...have helped me to understand what a wonderful promise that is. If my boat had sunk...if I and those dear to me had lost our lives...even then we would be found safe in the shelter of God's dwelling, high upon the rock of His unfailing love. May God grant us such assurance wherever and whenever our "day of trouble" comes.

Pastor Ferrier

REDEEMER
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Pastor Rev. Kenneth
Ferrier

Office
Secretary Pat Wilcoxon

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President Joe Carlos

Vice
President Don Blakley

Treasurer Erwin Nesvacil)

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Group Shay Thurow

Elders Message



Awesome Story of Three Trees

Once there were three trees on a hill in the woods. They were discussing their hopes and dreams when the first tree said, "Someday I hope to be a treasure chest. I could be filled with gold, silver and precious gems. I could be decorated with intricate carving and everyone would see the beauty.

"Then the second tree said, "Someday I will be a mighty ship. I will take kings and queens across the waters and sail to the corners of the world. Everyone will feel safe in me because of the strength of my hull.

"Finally the third tree said, "I want to grow to be the tallest and straightest tree in the forest. People will see me on top of the hill and look up to my branches, and think of the heavens and God and how close to them I am reaching. I will be the greatest tree of all time and people will always remember me.

"After a few years of praying that their dreams would come true, a group of woodsmen came upon the trees.

When one came to the first tree he said, "This looks like a strong tree; I think I should be able to sell the wood to a carpenter," and he began cutting it down. The tree was happy, because he knew that the carpenter would make him into a treasure chest.

At the second tree the woodsman said, "This looks like a strong tree, I should be able to sell it to the shipyard. "The second tree was happy because he knew he was on his way to becoming a mighty ship.

When the woodsmen came upon the third tree, the tree was frightened because he knew that if they cut him down his dreams would not come true. One of the woodsmen said, "I don't need anything special from my tree, I'll take this one," and he cut it down.

When the first tree arrived at the carpenter, he was made into a feed box for animals. He was then placed in a barn and filled with hay. This was not at all what he had prayed for. The second tree was cut and made into a small fishing boat. His dreams of being a mighty ship and carrying kings had come to an end.

The third tree was cut into large pieces and left alone in the dark. The years went by, and the trees forgot about their dreams. Then one day, a man and woman came to the barn. She gave birth and they placed the baby in the hay in the feed box that was made from the first tree. The man wished that he could have made a crib for the baby, but this manger would have to do. The tree could feel the importance of this event and knew that it had held the greatest treasure of all time.

Years later, a group of men got in the fishing boat made from the second tree. One of them was tired and went to sleep. While they were out on the water, a great storm arose and the tree didn't think it was strong enough to keep the men safe. The men woke the sleeping man, and He stood and said "Peace" and the storm stopped. At this time, the tree knew that it had carried the King of Kings in its boat.

Finally, someone came and got the third tree. It was carried through the streets as the people mocked the man who was carrying it. When they came to a stop, the man was nailed to the tree and raised in the air to die at the top of a hill. When Sunday came, the tree came to realize that it was strong enough to stand at the top of the hill and be as close to God as was possible, because Jesus had been crucified on it.

(Continued on Page 3)

Elders Message

(Continued from Page 2)

The moral of this story is that when things don't seem to be going your way, always know that God has a plan for you. If you place your trust in Him, He will give you great gifts. Each of the trees got what they wanted, just not in the way they had imagined. We don't always know what God's plans are for us. We just know that His ways are not our ways, but His ways are always best.

Tim Byrne

Elder Chair Person

1 Timothy 4:16

President's Corner

The Church Council and I thank you for your continued prayers and support. Most of the part of our Redeemer family that migrates has completed their migration and we trust that the Lord sent his angels to protect them in their migration and they are safely back in their northerly roosts with family and friends. Those of us that reside here year round are looking forward to summer. To visit family and friends and in turn being visited by family and friends.

We live in a wonderful part of God's creation, so abundant with wild life, beautiful night skies, natural beauty and picture perfect sunsets. How can not everyone believe that this all was crafted by the hand of God and did not come about just by accident? For many years this area was spared from direct hurricane hits, but then came Charley. We now are all mindful that summer means storms. We now protect ourselves the best we can and as always put ourselves in the hands of our Lord. After a storm comes, renewing and rebuilding. The process can be painful but the results are rewarding.

No, I am not suggesting that we need a storm at Redeemer but have we as a congregation become too comfortable and stagnant? Are we using the resources God gave us effectively to reach those around us?

Our first consideration is how to make Child Care a more effective tool in our outreach effort. With Gods help the Child Care questionnaire you completed at the last voters meeting along with the questionnaires completed with various members of our congregation over the past several months will enable your church council to come up with some action plans for your consideration at the next voter's meeting.

This fall we are planning a leadership retreat. All members who have a leadership role in our congregation will be asked to attend. Our goal will be to establish some short term, midterm and long range action plans for our congregation on how best we can serve our Lord.

Submitted by Joe Carlos

New Members

MEMBERS

Glen & Brenda Kraft
1460 Lemon Bay Drive
Englewood, FL 34223
941-473-2437

Glen retired as Vice President of Union Carbide Corp. Brenda also worked at Union Carbide Corp. as Human Resource Manager. Glen's hobbies are boating, gardening, woodworking, and model ship building. Brenda is an avid reader and enjoys growing orchids. Both enjoy golf and traveling.

Diana Collins
P.O. Box 592
Placida, FL 33946
941-698-6695

Diana is a retired civilian employee of the New York State Police. Diana enjoys gardening, biking, kayaking, and bird watching.

Clara Jo Toth
244 Cougar Way
Rotonda West, FL 33947
941-697-1670

Clara Jo is a retired hospital x-ray librarian. She enjoys line dancing, making shell jewelry and crafts.

John Toth
244 Cougar Way
Rotonda West, FL 33947
941-697-1670

John is employed as a house painter. John enjoys playing pool and darts. John is the son of Clara Jo Toth.

Mary Ellen Graef
3730 Cadbury Circle #530
Venice, FL 34293
941-492-6356

Mary Ellen is a retired medical assistant. She enjoys reading, needlework and crafts.

ASSOCIATES

Cliff & Marilyn Kraft
1456 Deer Creek Drive
Englewood, FL 34223
941-474-1390

Cliff is a retired management consultant. Marilyn is a homemaker. Cliff's hobbies are golf, gardening and fishing. Marilyn enjoys golf and reading and they both enjoy boating.

Please meet and greet our new members and welcome them into our Redeemer family.

Submitted by Ellie Ratzlaff



Christian Support Group

MAY MEETING: May 30 @ 10 a.m., Fellowship Hall

JUNE MEETING: JUNE 27, @ 10 a.m. Fellowship Hall

CHRIST IS RISEN INDEED! ALLELUIA!

Same old, same old? Ho Hum! Are we tempted to think this when we're reminded of our Savior's Birth and His Death on the Cross and all the Blessings in between? Perhaps, but think what it would be like if these freedoms for our Christian worship seasons were declared unlawful? Imprisonment or worse if we blatantly refuse to renounce our Christian faith, just like the Savior, so that we could have forgiveness of our sins through Him. He had a Mission, saving our souls, and our mission should be the same.

Group's mission is to serve any and all who have burdens/needs. If you are one in need, then this is the place for you. We try--we really do care, and our promise is that we'll get at least one smile from you before you leave and feel better in the process. Come!

In Our Risen Savior's Name, Shay and Rol Thurow

"I Am a Christian"

When I say..."I am a Christian", I'm not shouting "I'm clean livin."
I'm whispering "I was lost, Now I'm found and forgiven."

When I say..."I am a Christian", I don't speak of this with pride.
I'm confessing that I stumble, And need CHRIST to be my guide.

When I say..."I am a Christian", I'm not trying to be strong.
I'm professing that I'm weak, And need HIS strength to carry on.

When I say..."I am a Christian", I'm not bragging of success.
I'm admitting I have failed, And need God to clean my mess.

When I say..."I am a Christian", I'm not claiming to be perfect,
My flaws are far too visible, But God believes I am worth it.

When I say..."I am a Christian", I still feel the sting of pain,
I have had my share of heartaches, So I call upon His name.

When I say..."I am a Christian", I'm not holier than thou,
I'm just a simple sinner, Who received God's good grace, somehow.

Let everything that has breath praise the Lord. Psalm 150:6

Maya Angelou

Assimilation



May 7

May 14

May 21

May 28

Submitted by Pam DeGourse

May

Erv & Betty Maki

Carol & Susan Haupt

Carolyn Jordan

Barbara Clark & Shirley Zatkalik

GREETERS SCHEDULE

May

8:00 A.M.

- May 7 Clare Kieselburg & Leona Morrison
- May 14 James & Carol Awe
- May 21 Steve & Lee Procuk
- May 28 Robert Mortenson & Mary Ellen Graef

10:30 A.M.

- May 7 Don & Helena DeGourse
- May 14 Anthony & Sharon Grcevic
- May 21 Herb & Pat Petersen
- May 28 Don & Helena DeGourse

<h3>Church Housekeeping</h3>

- May 6 Helen Sturzenbecker
Shirley Ferguson
- May 13 Avis & Earl Stuck
- May 20 Helen Sturzenbecker
Shirley Ferguson
- May 27 Gunterman Family

May Birthdays

Olga Nagel	5/1
Dolores Baird	5/2
Edward Grobe	5/5
Ken Heimlich	5/5
Tom McGrath	5/8
Carol Haupt	5/9
Aleta Zwick	5/10
Jerry McConnell	5/12
Joan Johnson	5/13
Clarence Sturzenbecker	5/15
Martin Altmann	5/15
Doris Dykhuizen	5/16
Virginia Kamp	5/16
Robert Baird	5/17
Zachary Keller	5/17
Lee Seib	5/18
Ray Altmann	5/19
Ken Ferrier	5/20
Loretta Grobe	5/20
Helen Sturzenbecker	5/20
Helen Scott	5/21
Shelby Sita	5/21
Roger Vick	5/21
Jerold Schreiner	5/22
Arlene Harden	5/24
Shawn Richard	5/25
Ellie Ratzlaff	5/26
Scott Altmann	5/27
Carol Awe	5/27
Michelle Oliver	5/27
Rusty Queck	5/27
Robert Scheel	5/28
William Balogh	5/29
Cheryl Thatcher	5/30
Carol Vovcsko	5/31

May Anniversaries

		Years
James & Jennifer Dunn	5/25/1996	10
Joseph & Judith Scarangella	5/23/1964	42
Marvin & Shirley Schiefer	5/23/1959	47
Don & Carolyn Plesner	5/31/1958	48
Cecil & Sybil Grahl	5/4/1957	49
Jerry & Johanna McConnell	5/18/1957	49

Please notify the Church Secretary if you are left off the list or if there is an incorrect date. This way the records will be correct.



**Birthdays &
Anniversaries
This Month!**

From the Office

Soon some of you will be returning to your Northern nests. Please remember to let the Church Office know when you are planning to leave.

Thank you, Pat Wilcoxon, Church Secretary



Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for submission of articles for June is Sunday, May 21st immediately after the 10:30 service.

If you have an article you would like to submit for the newsletter, either e-mail it to shortstack44@ewol.com or place it in the newsletter box in the church office. Articles received after May 12th will be held for the July newsletter.



Please be sure to put your name on the article so I can contact you if there are any questions.

Thank you, Leta Leimer

SCRIP

Michelle Ferrier will be taking Scrip orders May through October.

Watch Sunday bulletin for dates.

Submitted by Sybil Grahl

Address Changes

Please make the following changes to your bright pink 2005-2006
Church Directory

CHANGES

Lois Overmeyer	Telephone Change	941-697-5201
Don & Carolyn Plesner	Northern Address:	2225 Grass Lake Avenue Sandy Shores, Lot 91 Lake, MI 48632 (989) 588-4059

Submitted by Pat Wilcoxon, Church Secretary

Assimilation

During the year, there are many events taking place in our church family. Please check the Activity Desk in the Narthex for information about each one.

We want to encourage all congregation members to wear their name tags. Recently we were blessed to add new members to our church family, and we want to make it easier for them to get to know us.

*In Christian love,
Pam DeGourse
Assimilation Secretary*

THE REDEEMER PRAYER CIRCLE list is being updated. The Prayer Circle was created to make it possible for many prayers to be offered up to God for people experiencing health problems, loss of loved ones, difficult times, etc. If you wish to be on the telephone prayer circle list or the e-mail prayer list, please notify Pat Wilcoxon, Church Secretary — 47402410.

Submitted by Sybil Grahl



Stephen Ministry

The Stephen Ministers have been trained, commissioned and have received their care receiver. We have six Stephen Ministers and two Stephen Ministry leaders. Stephen Ministry received a list from pastor with fifteen potential care receivers. Each Stephen Minister has one care receiver they visit weekly in a private, one to one, confidential setting for about an hour a week. You can see from the numbers we are lacking in Stephen Ministers.



In late fall we will begin the fifty hour class for new Stephen Ministers. We have fun in the classes as we grow as Christians. If you can listen, accept, and pray for people working through a crisis or a tough time please consider joining our Stephen Ministers. Stephen Ministry expands the care of our church by equipping and organizing members to provide Christian care. This gives us a larger pool of people with the gifts, skills, and calling to bring Christ's love and care to those who need it most.

Please pray that those blessed with the gifts and abilities to serve as Stephen Ministers may be moved by the Holy Spirit to come forth and serve in this ministry. I urge you to talk with the Stephen Ministers newly commissioned for more information on their classroom experiences. Also contact Carol Carlos (941-255-3354) or Carol Haupt (941-493-0399), the Stephen Leaders for information on the classes.

Stephen Ministers:

- Mary Beaber
- Nancy Fandrick
- Sharon Grcevic
- Erwin Nesvacil
- Maureen Nesvacil
- Sandy Sita

The Stephen Series logo at the top of the page consists of a cross and circle together with a broken person and a whole person. The broken person behind the cross symbolizes the brokenness in our lives due to our sin and imperfections. The whole person stands in front of the cross because it is only through the cross of Jesus that we are made whole. The circle symbolizes both the wholeness we receive through Christ and God's unending love for us.

Please pray for our Stephen Ministers that they may remain humble servants to you, focusing on bringing your love and salvation to those experiencing the challenges of life.

Submitted by Carol Carlos



HEALING:

Members

Earl Fergin
 Arlene Harden
 Joan Johnson
 Marlaine Keller
 Cliff Larsen
 Jaye Nistendirk
 Sandra Scheel
 Shay Thurow
 Rose Wagasy

Friends & Relatives

Valerie Buie
 Anna Cooper
 Earleen Eitrem
 Lois Ferrier
 Jerry Fisher, Jr.
 Judy Griffith
 Pamela Hackley
 Barbara Hentch
 Emily Kroll
 Ellen Kummer
 Crystal Reynolds
 Kathy Rosidivito
 Carol Ross
 Jeff Topczewski
 Jenny Topczewski

MILITARY PERSONNEL & FAMILIES



Herb Bohm
 Bernice Heppner
 Ruth Jansch
 James and Henrietta Prather
 Bertha Sandhusen
 Norma Spaw

Child Care

The children have been practicing during chapel both for the Lenten Service they sang at on Wednesday, April 5 and the 10:30 service on April 30 that they will participate in before the Redeemer Family Cook-Out.



Four year olds with their giant shark they made together.

Ms. Wendy's four year old class studied all kinds of fish in March which included lessons on "The boy with the lunch" and Jesus said "throw your nets on the other side of the boat."



Submitted by Shawn Richard

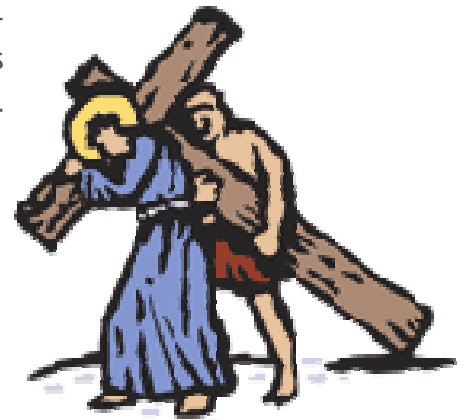
Bible Quiz

After the Resurrection, the apostle Philip was on the road to Gaza when he came upon an Ethiopian official sitting in a chariot. The man, on a return trip from worshipping in Jerusalem, was reading aloud. As Philip approached, he recognized the words that the official was reading: "Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter . . ." (Acts 8:32, NRSV).

Philip knew they were the words of what Jewish prophet?

- A. Amos
- B. Micah
- C. Hosea
- D. Isaiah

The answer is in Acts 8:30



Ladies Guild

HELP! We need your help! The Bazaar is scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 11th and we need hand-made items to sell. We are not only asking the women of the congregation, but also the men to contribute handmade items.

Many of our members have left for the north, or will be shortly. While you are away, remember that the Ladies Guild will need your hand-made items. If you will not be returning before November 11th, we hope you will send items to the church.

The Bazaar will be operating like last year, with members being responsible for particular tables:

Almost new/attic treasures	Household
Art work	Home decorations
Bake sale	Jewelry
Children's corner	Pillows & quilts
Christmas items	Plants
Gift Corner	

If you have any questions, or would like to report what you are making, please contact I Margie Cypher - 941-475-4805 or mcypher@comcast.net

Submitted by Margie Cypher

A salad luncheon was enjoyed by members and guests at the April meeting. The next meeting will Wednesday, October 4.

We do not have a president for the next season. Please prayerfully consider being our leader. We have many willing helpers, but need someone to be in charge.

The bi-annual LWML District Convention will be at Palm Beach Gardens September 22-24. Deadline for registration is June 30. Information available from Lessie Kirch. The LWML Fall Zone Rally will be at Hope Lutheran, Bradenton in October. More information available at later date.

The Fall Bazaar will be Saturday, November 11. It is not too soon to start making hand crafted items, also gently used items--jewelry, household items, etc. are welcome.

Mark your calendar for FRIDAY December 15 for the Ladies Guild Christmas Party. ALL ladies of the congregation are invited. The event will be a catered luncheon in the fellowship hall. Watch for details in November.

Forty eight Bible have been purchased and marked for the Lutheran Prison Ministry. Our annual love offerings will soon be mailed.

Submitted by Sybil Grahl, Secretary

Ladies Guild

A big thank you to all the ladies who contributed to the Easter gifts given to our shut-ins and to those who delivered them. It brought a little sunshine to Redeemer's shut-in members.

Submitted by Jane Hoivik

The Ladies Guild would like to thank the congregation members for their attendance at the Lenten Suppers. The last dinner was April 5. Sloppy Joes were served to approximately 55-60 Each Wednesday after the Lenten service a different group of ladies prepare and serve the meal. We enjoy the fellowship and hope you do also.

Submitted by Sybil Grahl

Pictures from Lenten Suppers



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Submitted by Sybil Grahl, Secretary