

3rd Quarter Highlights

As our congregation heads toward the end of 2008 we will be hearing of some substantial challenges confronting us. It's no secret that with recent downturns in our area Redeemer has experienced a drop in membership as well as a drop in enrollment in our Child Care. With such drops, of course, we have also been seeing reductions in both contributions and the fees from Child Care. At our October 28th Voter's Assembly your Church Council will be presenting some tough choices that we may have to make if this trend continues for a prolonged period.

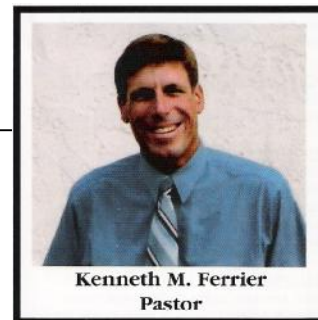
It is important, however, not to allow ourselves to be pulled into a spiral of doom and gloom thinking. When Redeemer was started over 25 years ago its future was filled with challenges and uncertainties. That didn't prevent those founding members from trusting in God to bless them with the people and resources they would need to carry out the mission to which they had been called.

Today we are still faithfully engaged in that mission. Redeemer exists to nurture believers in growing discipleship through the ministry of God's Word and Sacraments. Redeemer also exists for the purpose of reaching out to the lost and unchurched through those same Means of Grace. Without the blessing of Almighty God, Redeemer would never have come this far. Without God's blessing, we could never continue into the future.

The purpose of the rest of this article is to help you see – in real, tangible, current ways – how God continues to bless us richly by his grace. Here are a few highlights from the "slowest" three months of our calendar:

--On July 4th we held Redeemer's first Fourth of July Picnic. Carol Haupt was in charge of the festivities which included food (of course!) and patriotic songs (with Margie Cypher on the tambourine and yours truly on the guitar). Gene Eiler got us all laughing with

a tale of confusion over whether the initials "W.C." stood for "wayside chapel" or "water closet" (a British term for "bathroom").



Kenneth M. Ferrier
Pastor

--Our Child Care and congregation were saddened to have Shawn Richard, our founding Child Care Director, Shawn's children, Stephanie and Brandon, and Shawn's mother, Shirley Byrne (another founding figure at Redeemer Child Care) all move back to Michigan. At almost the same time we rejoiced as God blessed us with a young, determined, and highly capable new Child Care Director, Miss Brandy Bilhardt.

--All through the summer our Redeemer congregation was gradually learning the liturgies from our Synod's new hymnal: Lutheran Service Book. By the end of the summer, thanks to the generosity of so many of our members, we were able to dedicate enough new hymnals to retire the former version and move completely into LSB.

--As you may have already heard, our ministry was blessed earlier this year with a sizeable bequest from the estate of Bill and Betty Vernick. This summer we were blessed again with the final installment of that bequest.

--September brought the Annual Pioneer Days Parade in Old Englewood. For the first time, Redeemer was entered in the parade. My white truck, accompanied by pirate-clad Redeemer members – young and old – traversed the parade route, handing out informative materials and freebies to hundreds of onlookers.

--When the kids started back to school it was time to resume Junior Confirmation Instruction and our Child Care Chapel Services. It's always a joy to teach the confirmands the wonderful truths of God's Word ... and it's downright fun to work with the Child Care children singing action songs and learning of Jesus' love.

(Continued on Page 2)

REDEEMER LUTHERAN
CHURCH

Pastor Rev. Kenneth Ferrier
Office Secretary Pat Wilcoxon
Organist Nancy Gunterman
Lanette Schmidt

OFFICERS

President Joe Carlos
Vice Pres. Glen Kraft
Treasurer Byron Beaber
Secretary Dorothy Sinowetski

BOARDS

Assimilation Laura Brooks
Building & Grounds
Child Care Director Brandi Bilhardt
Christian Ed. Nancy Gunterman
Elders Tim Byrne
Human Care Marj Sterriker
Outreach Carol Haupt
School Board Stacey Depersia
Stewardship Ray Altmann
Youth Jim Wright

CLUBS/GUILDS

Ladies Guild Linda Rogers, VP
Men's Group Bob Mortenson
Red Hat Society Sandra Distasio
Christian Support Group

3rd Quarter Highlights

(Continued From Page 1)

--Throughout the summer Pam DeGourse has been hard at work with her assistants, Pat Petersen and Charley Vovcsko, to enhance the beauty and the utility of Redeemer's Memorial Garden. This will enable us to better minister to grieving families for many years to come.

---The summer months also brought into our midst a number of new members including Jim and Becky Heichelbech, Carol Sheahan, Erwin and Gudrun Janke, and Michele Finley and her children Spencer, McKenna and Bodie. A few more families are also already "in the process" of becoming a part of our Redeemer family.

So – I hope you will agree – we continue to be abundantly blessed – even as we are continually challenged – by our gracious God.

But, in both happy times and in the hardest of times, let us never lose sight of the greatest blessing of all: The forgiveness and salvation that are freely given us in our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Praise God from whom all blessings flow!

Pastor Ferrier

President's Corner



The President's Corner

The Church Council and I thank you for your continued prayers and support. We thank God daily for all the blessings he showers on us.

Well here we are at crunch time. So much yet to do and the year's end rapidly approaching. Things always seem to get compressed as we get closer to the end of the month and especially at the end of the year. I guess it is due to a desire that many of us have to complete all the goals we have set for ourselves and to be able to start the new time period be it a month or year with fresh goals and a clean slate. It is my sincere wish that I could write that our goals have been met and that we can start the new year with new goals and a clean slate. However, that is not the case.

We continue to see the same conditions we have been experiencing for the past several years. Decline in membership and a corresponding drop in financial support. There are several reasons for this decline. One of which is, even though Englewood suffered minimal direct physical damage from the hurricane season of three years ago it is still feeling the lingering financial effects. Some of our members have seen their property insurance double in cost along with higher real estate taxes. A burden they could not carry so they have left the area.

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President's Corner

(Continued From Page 2)

The housing slump has affected the enrollment in our Child Care. Some of the parents of the children in our Child Care are employed in construction. They have either lost their job or are working shorter hours therefore, our enrollment is about 50% of our capacity.

That is the present situation. However, in the next several years about 66 million people will retire in the United States. A portion of those people will be coming to Florida. In spite of the present real estate situation, Charlotte County still represents the best value for the real estate dollar in Florida. WalMart in the past year has built a major distribution center in Port Charlotte. In addition they have expanded the size of existing stores and have built at least two major new stores. Publix a few months ago purchased a large parcel of land near the Charlotte County airport for a major distribution center. Home Depot and Lowes have built new stores and are continuing to do so with a new Home Depot just down the road. One only needs to look around to see other commercial businesses expanding their operations. Skybus shortly will start air service from Charlotte County Airport to Columbus, Ohio. There are a number of planned major new residual projects in the area. Folks, these corporations would not be investing millions of dollars in real estate and business expansion if they didn't expect a major population growth in this area. This growth will not only be from retirees but also from younger people that will come to provide services to those retirees.

So that's today's situation. There is little we can do regarding the economic situation. However, the LORD has blessed our congregation with many resources. We as HIS stewards with the HOLY SPIRIT'S guidance will have to make some tough choices in how best to use the gifts with which we have been blessed. To preserve our congregation and to position ourselves to be ready to serve those that will be coming, please be assured that at the present time we can meet all of our current financial obligations; however, at the rate with which we are using our reserves in a few short months we might not be in that position.

Your leadership has been struggling with this issue for some time. Ideas, suggestions and scenarios have developed. However, since the leadership has been working so long on this issue and has been so close to the problem, the thought was generated to form an ad hoc committee to be composed of fresh eyes to review our financial situation and make recommendations to council by January. The following members Pastor Schmidt (Chair), Ron Beaber, Tony Grcevic, and Clare Kieselburg have graciously accepted the call to serve on this committee.

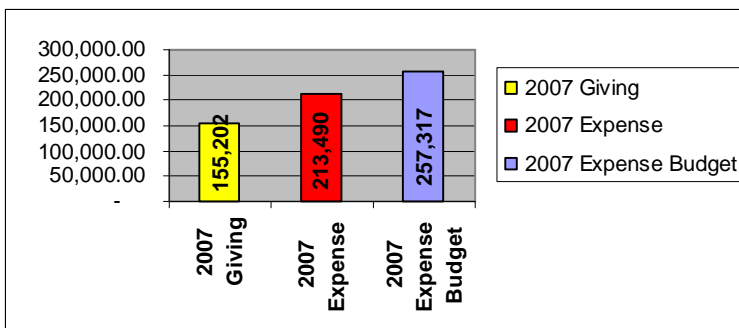
What can we all do. First pray. Pray for our congregation, our Pastor and our leadership. We are all blessed with certain gifts. Pray for guidance in how your gift or gifts might be used in our congregation. Soon our nominating committee will be seeking people that are willing to serve. Don't wait for the call, call them and tell them of your willingness to serve. Lastly, if at all possible, if you could put a little extra in the offering plate that would ease some of the pressure.

Oh, just two more things. Don't despair for I'm reminded of a song, "HE'S got the Whole World in HIS Hands", and SMILE, GOD LOVES YOU.

Joe Carlos

Finance

	<u>2007 Giving</u>	<u>2007 Expense</u>	<u>2007 Expense Budget</u>
January	18,056	19,419	33,804
February	19,634	26,638	25,622
March	20,950	28,215	36,631
April	25,608	26,003	26,702
May	11,455	42,022	22,718
June	10,197	13,290	25,519
July	23,262	15,250	33,733
August	(Includes \$10,000 Gift) 11,413	21,549	27,859
September	14,627	21,104	24,729
Year to Date	155,202	213,490	257,317



Active List of Dedicated Funds

Servants in His Mission has been Paid IN FULL and closed, please do not use the envelopes in your giving book. Giving can be substituted to Debt Reduction (Pay off Mortgage) or any other dedicated fund.

- | | | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| Building Fund | Memorial Garden Fund | LCMS World Relief Fund | Migrant Workers Fund |
| Future School Fund | Choir Fund | Office Equipment Fund | LWML Fund |
| Building Maintenance Fund | Outreach Fund | Tape Ministry Fund | Family Assistance Fund |
| Debt Reduction Fund | Stephen Ministry Fund | Disaster Relief Fund | Horvath Family Fund |
| Memorials General Fund | Human Care Fund | Rally Fund | Englewood Helping Hands |
| Child Care Fund | Thrivent Fund | Retreat Fund | Church World Services |
| Youth Ministry Fund | | | |

Service Directory/Classified Ads

Services

Beautician/Manicurist Debbie Balogh Purple Palace 941-475-0731

Pressure Cleaning - Matt & Michelle Finley - Hoover Pressure Cleaning – 697-6886

Tell us you saw us in the Redeemer Newsletter & get a 10% discount.

Licensed & Insured – www.hooverpressure.com

Hoover Pressure Cleaning ~ “The Plant Friendly People”

For Sale

Nutri-system 4-week shipment of food in unopened box. Original cost \$280, sell for \$200. Also, additional meals at no cost. Call Ed at 475-8116.

Fostoria American Dishes (large lot). The Youth are selling this online at eBay. However, if you are a collector or know someone who is and would like to buy it directly from them, please call Michelle Ferrier at 697-0502.

Tommy Hilfiger “tommy” cologne spray, 1.7 fl. Oz/50 ml. Brand new in box.

1 bottle available.

\$10.00 ea.

Call Michelle Ferrier — 697-0502

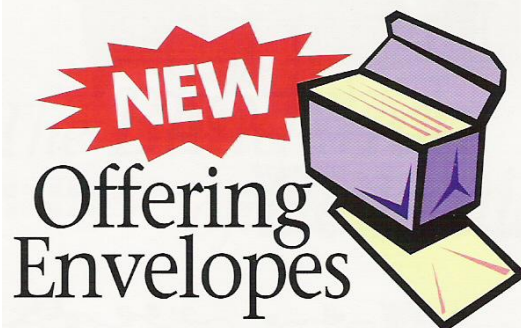
Beautiful Dining Set With Matching Curio Cabinet

54-inch diameter glass table top—Four comfortable chairs plus captain’s chair—Cocoa-colored suede upholstery—86” x 50” glass front curio cabinet with glass shelving & accent light—3 Years old—Excellent Condition—\$1,500



To see or for more information call Helen Wagner (941) 697-0807

Please be sure to pick up your 2008 Offering Envelopes located in the Narthex.



Ladies Guild

The Ladies Guild got off to a good start this fall season on October 3rd with 13 present. Carol Skealeon was welcomed as our guest. Pastor Ferrier opened with a prayer, and Helen Sturzenbecker gave the devotions.

The Bazaar and Craft Fair is November 17th. Call Margie Cypher if you would like to volunteer to head various tables.

The Guild members had sent a letter to the Elders requesting their consideration in changing the mid-week Advent and Lenten early services to start at 4:30 p.m. The Elders have concurred that this would be a good idea.

The Ladies Guild Christmas Party is scheduled for December 14th at the Hills Country Club in Rotonda. The price of the luncheon is \$17.00 including tip. See Laura Brooks to make your reservation. All ladies of Redeemer are invited to attend.

Our organization is still in need of a president and vice-president. Please give this your prayerful thought and consider these positions.

Submitted by Linda Rogers

Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for submission of articles for December is Sunday, November 18th by 12 noon.

If you have an article you would like to submit for the newsletter, either e-mail it to letastender@ewol.com or place it in the newsletter box in the church office. Articles received after November 18th will be held for the January newsletter.

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

Leta Stender



GREETERS SCHEDULE

8:00 A.M.

- Nov. 4 Charles & Betty Keller
- Nov. 11 Ray & Dolores Altmann
- Nov. 18 Steve & Lee Procuk
- Nov. 25 Ray & Dolores Altmann

10: A.M.

- Nov. 4 Bob & Joan Johnson
- Nov. 11 Anna Smith & Ione Comstock
- Nov. 18 Don & Bonnie Roussin
- Nov. 25 Carl & Betty Bertka

Thanksgiving Eve—Nov. 22

Don & Helena DeGourse

Submitted by Betty Rowe



Acolytes

- Nov. 4 8:00 Courtney Thatcher
10:30 Anthony Bruno
- Nov. 11 8:00 Madeline Keller
10:30 Hayley Smith
- Nov. 18 8:00 Courtney Thatcher
10:30 McKenna Heldenbrand
- Nov. 25 8:00 Courtney Thatcher
10:30 Anthony Bruno

Nov. 22 Thanksgiving Eve

Nathan Gunterman

Submitted by Pat Wilcoxon

Assimilation

- Nov. 4 Tommy & Karen Kirkland
Laura Brooks
- Nov. 11 Sybil & Cecil Grahl
- Nov. 18 Brenda Kraft & Linda Rogers
- Nov. 25 Claire Kieselburg
Betty & Erv Maki

Submitted by Pam DeGourse



USHERS THIS MONTH

8:00 A.M.

- Nov. 4 Lee Vandercook & Olga Nagel
Joe & Phylis Lehner
- Nov. 11 Steve Procuk & Kim Horn
Jim & Becky Heichelbech
- Nov. 18 Steve Procuk & Kim Horn
Jim & Becky Heichelbech
- Nov. 25 Steve Procuk & Kim Horn
Joe & Phylis Lehner

10: A.M.

- Nov. 4 Dallas & Rusty Queck
Ray & Leta Stender
- Nov. 11 Dallas & Rusty Queck
Tommy & Karen Kirkland
- Nov. 18 Dallas & Rusty Queck
Tommy & Karen Kirkland
- Nov. 25 Dallas & Rusty Queck
Tommy & Karen Kirkland

Nov. 22 Thanksgiving Eve

Steve Procuk, Don Plesner
Earl Richard, Ray Janssen

Submitted by Pat Wilcoxon

Notes for Life

Serving Our Neighbor in Love And Faith

As Christ gave Himself to us in order to redeem us from our sin, so we also give ourselves to our neighbor. This extraordinary story of a man who stood by his wife in one of the most difficult end-of-life situations, with the much-needed support of dedicated friends, reminds us all that we, too, have a calling to “make connections” to support our brothers and sisters in time of need, and to give sacrificially to others as our Lord has done for us.

She spent years caring for her husband, Ralph, as any wife would—cooking, cleaning, washing laundry and managing the finances—but on October 20, 1997, Phyllis Kruse’s caretaking role reversed permanently. While out delivering books for Lutheran Chaplaincy Service in Cleveland, Phyllis was involved in a vehicular collision. She suffered numerous injuries and was diagnosed with locked-in syndrome, a rare neurological disorder resulting from traumatic brain injury. Phyllis was unable to speak, and she had no consistent voluntary control of any of the muscles in her body.

“She was literally a prisoner in her own body,” Ralph Kruse says. “We found out that she had cognition, that she could think and reason. She appeared to have all of her mental faculties, but she could not intentionally respond.”

After 5 weeks in the hospital in Cleveland, Phyllis spent the next five years in nursing homes until her death in August 2003. Early on, Ralph Kruse says he made up his mind that he wouldn’t view his suddenly-changed circumstances as a burden, but as a privilege. He was seventy years old when the accident happened, and retired. “I felt that God had given me the privilege of serving her as she had served me for so many years,” he says.

“Both of us profited from the relationship.

Ralph visited the nursing home twice a day. He didn’t intend to actively participate in her care, but he found it difficult to talk to her for long periods of time. “I just ran out of things to say,” he says. Ralph started to care for her physical needs, which lifted the burden of continually talking. In the mornings, he bathed Phyllis, brushed her teeth and hair, and got her ready for the day, and he returned in the evenings to read the Bible, pray, and meditate with her. “We experienced what St. Paul writes in Romans 8:28, ‘And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.’ Phyllis and I grew spiritually as a result of the tragedy, and my love for her became deeper and more intense,” he says.

We experienced what St. Paul writes in Romans 8:28, ‘And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.’

Two months after Phyllis was transferred to the nursing home, Ralph was surprised to get a call from Ted and Louise Anderson, members of his church in Willoughick, Ohio. “Phyllis and I knew them from the congregation, but we didn’t socialize with them outside of church. They wanted to take me out to dinner that Friday night and then to go visit Phyllis. We ended up doing that every Friday night for almost five years.”

It was because of Ted Anderson’s wit that they were convinced Phyllis had cognition. “He had a great sense of humor, and was always making jokes. When we walked into the room, Phyllis would light up like a light bulb. One day, Ted made a joke and Phyllis laughed for the first time since her accident. It was silent laughter, but she was laughing,” Ralph says. “Their support was unbelievable.”

Another special friend, Jan Koerwitz, visited with Phyllis daily when Ralph went out of town to see relatives. “Ted, Lou, and Jan were great blessings to Phyllis and me. He richly and greatly blessed us, especially through these three people,” Ralph says.

After Phyllis was injured, Ralph bought a cell phone and a hands-free kit with a microphone, and once a week or more he made calls to their daughters and other family members and chatted with them on speaker phone. “Phyllis was able to listen to both sides of the conversations,” he says. “I think she appreciated being a part of the lives of the people she knew.”

Though Phyllis couldn’t speak or communicate, Ralph could tell by the animation of her face and eyes that she absorbed everything. Many people out in the world might have given up, if not on her physical life then on caring for her emotional and spiritual needs, but Ralph held steadfast in his twice-daily visits to the end. “We consider ourselves to be a Christian nation, but we certainly forget the obligation we have as Christians to serve each other,” he says. “It was a great experience. I wouldn’t want to duplicate it, but I treasure it. There were many blessings during this time, though I look at many of them through tears.”

Note: *I thought this article helped put the issue of the sanctity of life...in all its stages...in a very positive perspective. If you would like to read more articles like this, you can find them on the internet.*

Go to Google—Type in “Notes for Life”—Go down to “The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod-Notes for Life

Pastor Ferrier

Ladies Guild of Redeemer

"LUTHERAN PRISON MINISTRY"

One of the projects of the Ladies Guild is to support the Lutheran Prison Ministry. Bibles are purchased by the case and the members mark various scriptures as suggested. The Bibles are then sent to Chaplain Ken Asplund for distribution.

The Bible Marking Program has been ministering to hundred of prisons and jails nationwide for twenty-seven years. There are no collection plates in prison and all funding for the program is from folks outside the prison walls.

One of the verses is the inspirational scripture of Matthew 25:36 – "For I was in prison and you came to Me...I say to you, in as much as you did to one of the least of these My brethren, you did to Me". The mission of the Prison Ministry is to visit those in prison and introduce them to their Savior and help them establish a close and loving relationship with HIM. It is to bring God's saving word to a very dark place!

A "Thank you" message was received from Allen Hanson for the 2 cases of marked Bibles from the Ladies Guild.

"HOPE SEEDS"

Another program supported by the Ladies Guild is Hope Seeds. Their slogan is to "Plant a Seed! Feed a Soul". It is a great description of how a life is changed, one planted seed at a time.

During one of the most recent mission trip was to Uganda. They went from village to village. Millions of people need millions of seeds to plant! Millions of souls need to hear about Jesus to be saved!

The program is to provide seeds (and plants) that will survive and produce food in the soil and with the weather conditions of that area. They teach the people how to plant, grown and harvest sustaining food. While doing this they also plant the seeds of Christ's teaching.

With the money earned from the "Bazaar & Craft Fair", the Lenten Dinners, the Gift Corner and Scrip, the Ladies Guild is able to support these various programs.

Submitted by Margie Cypher

Stephen Ministry



The Stephen Ministry spotlight is on Edward Doenges for the month of November. Ed is our newest Stephen Minister and has shown loving faithfulness to this mission. He and his wife Virginia (Ginny) of 50 years live in Warsaw, Indiana but spend November to June in Rotonda West, Florida. Ed is originally from Ft. Wayne, Indiana. They have 3 children. They have been in Florida for 11 years and have been faithful members of Redeemer for 11 years. Ed was a pharmacist in his life's work. His hobbies include oil painting, walking, water sports, exercising and piloting an airplane (which had to be given up after more than 20 years as a pilot) . When asked why he became a Stephen Minister Ed replied "I always felt that God had some other purpose for my life. I just didn't know what he had in mind. Then, when a call went out for Stephen ministers, I knew". As a side note Ed tells the story of going for a walk one day after realizing we were recruiting for Stephen Ministers. All of a sudden it came to him that God wanted him to be a Stephen Minister. Ed says the Holy Spirit gave him a gentle kick that day to help him with the decision making process. We are so glad he did, and thank you Ed for your faithful, loving ministry.

"Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms." 1 Peter 4:10



Submitted by Carol Carlos

Ladies Guild

Items are needed for the Bazaar and Craft Fair that is being held on
 Saturday, November 17th in the Fellowship Hall
 8:00 am to 2:00 pm

The following members have volunteered to chair the tables but they need items to fill the tables. If you have any homemade items, or any items that can be used, please let the table chairman know. The men of Redeemer are invited to provide items for the sale. Their telephone numbers are listed in the Church Directory.

Almost new/attic treasurers – Inga Tringali & Dee Baird
 Artwork/pictures - Carolyn Jordan & Avis Stuck
 Bake Goods-Betty Maki & Arlene Harden
 Children's Corner (children toys) -
 Christmas items/decorations – Dorothy Sinowetski
 Household items – Helen Sturzenbecker & Helen Plank
 Home decorations – Dolores Altmann & Shirley Ferguson
 Jewelry – Marj Sterriker, Georgette Callahan & Dora Comstock
 Pillows & Quilts – Vicki Davis
 Plants -

The room will be set up on Thursday, November 15th for pricing. Items for the "Bake Goods Table" should be brought on Friday. All the men and women of Redeemer are invited to join in and help with the event. Invite your friends and neighbors to attend.

If you need space to store your items before November 15th, you may bring them to the church office. Margie Cypher will store them until the event. If you have any questions please call Margie – 474-4805.

Submitted by Margie Cypher



We would like to thank Pastor Ferrier for his comforting words while we were in Illinois during our mother, Lydia Klinger's, final hours. Also, a thank you to all who sent condolences and spoke comforting words to us at church and by telephone. We can feel the prayers as we go through this sad time. What a blessing Redeemer congregation has been to us. It is a privilege to be a part of the Redeemer family. Thank you all again for your loving, Christian caring and may God bless you all.

The Family of Lydia Klinger

HEALING:

Members
 Mark Horvath
 Bob & Joan Johnson
 Lessie Kirch
 Cliff Larsen
 James Overmyer
 Lee Procuk
 Steve Procuk
 Rusty Queck
 Betty Rowe
 Katie Rudolph
 Dorothy Waterhouse
 Barbara Wolgast
 Lee Vandercook

Friends & Relatives
 Phil Alcantara
 Betty Best
 Jim Cleary
 Julia Earl
 Esther Gaskill
 Jeanna & Mike Gohl
 Cheryl Harfst
 Debbie & Red Harrison
 Jack Haynes
 Sandy Hubbard
 Nathalie Kiedaisch
 Estella Lewis
 Rev. David Maier
 Christine McCollough
 Gwyn Ramsey
 Tommy Palmer
 Cheri Petersen
 Marion Talley
 Jennie Topczewski
 Ruth Turner
 Pat Vovcsko
 Cameron Wasiluk
 Charlie Welch



PRAYERS OF COMFORT FOR THE FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF JIM BERGMAN. HE WAS CALLED TO HIS ETERNAL HOME OCT. 16TH. HE WAS A "FOREVER" FRIEND OF THE GUNTERMAN FAMILY.

PRAYERS OF COMFORT FOR PATTY SPRAGUE AND FAMILY WHOSE MOTHER HELEN HALLADAY WAS CALLED TO HER ETERNAL HOME ON OCT. 15TH.

MILITARY PERSONNEL & FAMILIES



Herb Bohm
 Gloria Carlson
 Ruth Jansch
 Bertha Sandhusen
 Ruth Sutley
 Shirley Youngberg

Youth News



Heartfelt Thanks

Dear members of Redeemer Lutheran Church,

I would like to thank you for all you have done to make it possible for myself and the other youth to attend the 2007 National Youth Gathering. Thank you for supporting us financially, through your prayers, time, and words of encouragement.

The Youth Gathering this year was a neat experience. The theme, CHOSEN, was a really strong theme and one that encouraged us in our faith. There were two things I learned that especially stood out at this year's Gathering. One is something that should give comfort to all of us in our faith and it serves as a constant reminder of who we are, God's chosen children. From the beginning of the Bible to the end, Genesis to Revelation, the idea of us being chosen is mentioned. It's not just in 1 Peter, where the verse for the Gathering's theme was found. It's everywhere. We are chosen! The other thing I learned that will really help as I'm preparing to go out into the world after college is something we learned at one of the sessions we attended. It was about Satan, and how he is out there ready and waiting for us, to catch us off guard. The speaker told us about the 3 ways that Satan tempts us and what we should be on guard for. I believe this is something I can use everyday of my life, to help me stay strong in my faith.

Thank you once again for allowing me to have this experience.

Sincerely,
Rebekah Ferrier

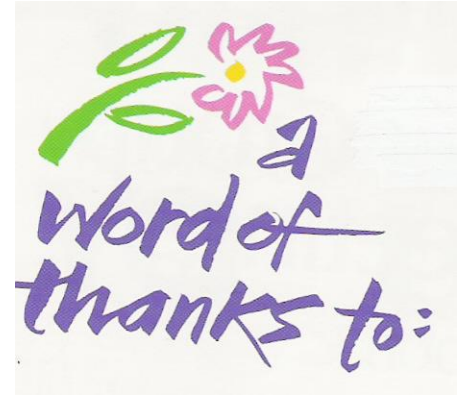
Dear Redeemer Lutheran congregation,

I would like to thank everyone who supported our Youth group. Your contributions helped fund our trip to the National Youth Gathering in Orlando, something I may have never been able to experience without your help.

The thing that I will remember most will be all the hundreds of other Lutheran worshippers that were gathered there. They say there is a decline in Christianity but there were 25,000 teens there wanting to learn more about our Savior and praise Him. From this event there could be more teens that may stick to their faith in the future.

Chelsea Gunterman

Youth News



To The Redeemer Lutheran Congregation,

The trip to the National 2007 LCML Youth Gathering in Orlando has helped me grow stronger in my Christian faith. It has shown me although there are many roadblocks and predicaments in everyday life

God has chosen us to live in his word and that there is a better life to come. The theme of the youth gathering was 1 Peter 2:9-10. These verses state *"But you are chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, That you may declare the praises of him who called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light. Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy."* This means that God chose us to be his people and we no longer live in the darkness of life, but in God's glorious light. I never read this verse before the Youth Gathering. It really made me think why a perfect God would choose me, a sinner, to be his chosen people. There are surely better people out there than me. But as the week went on I found out that God doesn't care how sinful you are because he loves his chosen people. This gave me assurance that God loves me although I have a sinful nature. In all the Workshops and speakers I went to there were examples of how God has chosen people. They showed how we were chosen in Christ, chosen with others, and chosen to the world. Some of the people used their talents such as art, music, and knowledge to live in God.

There was a man there who would paint a story on a canvas. By the end the many details turned into Jesus. After he was done painting, he told us his story how he was chosen by God. He was going to college and wondered how he could live his life more for God and not him. One day he quit college and began painting and soon found he had a great talent. His Story and way of living as a chosen person was my favorite part of the Youth Gathering. It helped me realize that there are unlimited ways to live your life in Christ and dedicate my life to Him.

The 2007 LCMS Youth Gathering in Orlando opened my eyes and helped me realize why I am chosen in God. I went to the gathering knowing little but left well informed and knowing much more. This trip was a fun and exciting way to learn more about God and his plan. Without your time helping and donations this wouldn't have been possible. I thank you greatly for everything that helped make it possible for me to go to the Youth Gathering. I have grown stronger in my faith and understand why we are chosen people with the help of the Redeemer congregation.

Thank you,
Ray Altmann

Youth News

Dear Redeemer Lutheran Congregation,

The 2007 LCMS National Youth Gathering was really a great part of my summer vacation. It strengthened my faith and I had a lot of fun. While at the gathering we went to many "Hear It Sessions". These sessions showed us how the Bible answers questions that many people have about why things happen in life and taught us more about the theme of the gathering; being chosen. This theme reminds us that God chose us and we didn't choose God and how blessed we are to be chosen.

The Gathering really helped strengthen my faith because now I don't only know what the Bible says, I know where it says it. I feel I can better back up my faith and be more confident when telling people what I believe because now I know where the Bible talks about what I'm explaining. Also The Gathering helped strengthen my faith by just being with people my age who share the same beliefs. It was nice being around people who understand your faith when most of the world does not.

My favorite part of The 2007 LCMS National Youth Gathering was the Bible studies each morning. Some things these Bible studies talked about were how Christians are chosen to bring others to faith. Also we need to be fishers of men and we can't do that if we aren't trying.

I want to thank everyone in the congregation for supporting our trip and those who gave donations to help make it possible. Your donations really helped me and the rest of the youth group at Redeemer learn a lot about the Bible and each other. Overall I had a lot of fun in Orlando at the Gathering!

Thanks,
Hannah Altmann

Oct. 1, 2007

Dear Congregation,

Thank you very much for staffing our food pantry with volunteers during the month of September. Thank you also for your generous donations of food and money. Your continues support and generosity truly makes a difference to those less fortunate in our community.

Sincerely,

Sharon Hodgdon
Corresponding Secretary



Ladies Guild Christmas Party

Friday, December 14th
The Hills Golf & Country Club
100 Rotonda Circle
11:30 am

The menu is the choice of:
Quiche Lorraine with a side salad or caesar salad with chicken
cheese cake for dessert, coffee and tea

The cost is \$17.00 per person

The Ladies Guild Christmas "Love Gift" will be to "Adopt a Family".
Envelopes will be available at the lunch

Laura Brooks will have the lunch tickets for sale on Sunday, November 11th to Sunday, December 9th
There will be a sign-up sheet for your choice of lunch

The women of Redeemer Lutheran Church are members of the Ladies Guild and are welcome attend the
Christmas Party and to invite friends.

Submitted by Margie Cypher



SCRIP ORDERS

Scrip orders for November will be taken Sunday, November 11. See Sybil Grahl in the Narthex after both services. The scrip will be returned Sunday, November 18. Retailer list and order forms are in the Narthex.

Scrip is gift cards--the same ones you can purchase at various merchants. The December orders will be taken December 2 and returned December 9. Gifts cards make the perfect Christmas gift. The Ladies Guild receives a percentage of the amount purchased. This is used for our various mission efforts.

Submitted by Sybil Grahl

Farewell to A Friend

[Pastor's note- A few months ago I had the bittersweet privilege of stopping by to bid farewell to Ginny Roussin, one of Redeemer's founding members. Her health dictated that she move to be closer to family up in Missouri. Due to the sensitive nature of that move we were prevented from having a public farewell for Ginny. I thought, however, that we should pause to thank God for all of her years of service to our church. The only problem was that I didn't know enough of the details to do it properly. My search for someone who did know the details led me to Marie Talley...an old friend of Ginny's. Here are Marie's reflections in her own words...which express it better than I ever could have.]

Bob and Ginny Roussin

I arrived in 1983 and joined Redeemer. Pastor Hassold was our minister. Bob worked on every project at church and served on the church council for years.

When Bob and Ginny first started before the church was built, they had about eight or ten interested in building. They had Bible studies in their homes and the same group kept together socially, too. Dominoes – a favorite.

Ginny was an excellent seamstress. She made whatever was needed, because funds were low. Everything she made, from altar cloths, costumes later on for Sunday School, table covers, and a tremendous amount of clowns, pigs, aprons, towels, table covers for our Bazaar—all at her expense. She made crucifix fish pictures and sand dollar pictures and donated live plants, and also baked for the bazaar. Later on, when we started making banners, she and I made banners for every season and the Ladies Aid paid for the materials. Ginny served in every office of the Guild – sometimes two and three years in a row. She was LWML chairman many, many years. We cooked, cleaned, painted, repaired hymnals and made the ribbons. Ginny, when it came to work in God's vineyard, she was always the leader, as well as the doer! She is an untiring, dedicated Christian in every sense of the word. She and Bob taught me how to make the palm crosses. She and her sister (Marjorie Mohring) helped me with pins for distribution every year. We were always pleased, in more recent years, that this old tradition was still used.

She has several fruit trees. She shared fruit on Sundays, by the bushels, and I do mean bushels. When we made banners, her home was our workshop. Incomplete banners were left on her dining room table until finished. However, when her friends came to play cards or dominoes, the banners had to go until the next time. She was an ardent golfer and was good, too!

So many received joy from her sewing skills. Many things still used in our fellowship hall and church were done willingly and well by Ginny. She was also a perfectionist. She was always humble and loving to all. I'll always consider her a beautiful, wonderful Christian and I love her like a sister. I hope we, at Redeemer, can honor her sometime. Of all the people - and so many are dedicated - Ginny should be acclaimed. I feel you will find, with the ones who knew her over the struggling years, many will agree with me. Ginny was always there!!

She was transportation, shopper, delivery person, and all around helper to her family and many members of Redeemer. A true Good Samaritan!! She was one of the eldest of 14 brothers and sisters. Her home was Minnesota or Wisconsin. I believe Bob and she had two daughters?? (can't remember) Sorry. She also made 50 gold blouses for the Fun Chorus' Christmas Concert in 198_? Tough material to work with and all turned out perfect!

Pastor's Footnote - A framed certificate praising God for all of Ginny's years of willing service will be presented at our October 28th Voters Assembly. It will then be sent to Ginny at her new home. If you would like to send her your own words of greeting you can reach her at:

Hidden Lake
11728 Hidden Lake Drive
St. Louis, MO 63138

Baby Shower

Kevin and Tricia Hopkins

It's a boy! Due sometime in November



Placida Nautical Flea Market



Human Care



Human Care

Come on all you loving, caring people, let's put these gifts to good use by volunteering to be on the board of Human Care! Give me a call or talk to me at church on Sunday. We need you!

Don't forget the first Blood Mobile date is December 9th. It will be on our church grounds.

Stephen Ministry classes start in January. Please call or see Carol Carlos if you are interested. (941) 255-3354.

Our Caring Network Coordinator, Lessie Kirch, states we are in need of a leader for area 10 (zip 34224). If you are in that area or close by, please contact Lessie if you are able to take on this important task. (941) 475-3689

We are unable to hold a congregation/community Thanksgiving dinner here at Redeemer due to lack of a state health certificate for this type of activity. We hope to come up with a workable plan for next year.

See our separate page regarding Messiah Migrant Mission's Christmas Angel Tree.

Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Share with God's people who are in need. Practice hospitality. Romans 12:11-12

Submitted by Marj Sterriker

Pioneer Days



Assimilation Board

Welcome back to all our Northern Redeemer Family members! Redeemer gains renewed strength and our hearts are filled with joy when all our family is reunited under His name.

Our faithful Greeter Chairperson, Betty Rowe, has asked to step down from her duties due to health reasons. We thank Betty for her many years of service and we pray for her improved health.

We are thrilled to advise you that Carol Sheahan has joined the Assimilation Board and we look forward to her help.

We thank Helena DeGourse for defrosting our church refrigerator last month and thanks to Dorothy Sinowetski who continues to share her talents in making display banners and changing our floral arrangements in the Narthex.

Fall brings us to many activities in the church. Should you have any questions concerning activities in the church, please see an Assimilation Board Member who is stationed behind the Activity Table in the Narthex on Sunday mornings. They will be happy to try and answer your questions.

Lord, please open our eyes, hearts and minds to see the opportunities to serve You.

Yours in Christ, Pam DeGourse

Stephen Ministry



The Stephen Ministry training provides a high level of Christian care giving and explores some serious life issues but it is also a growth producing and enjoyable experience. Most do not expect the personal and spiritual growth that comes from the training. Everything gotten from the training is a plus in a persons life. Learning about feelings, listening, Christian caring, assertiveness, maintaining boundaries and confidentiality are skills that can be used in our own personal life. Most also enjoy the close Christian community that is formed with everyone in Stephen Ministry. Please pray about your involvement in the 50 hours of class to learn this loving, Christian caring ministry. We pray you get that gentle kick from the Holy Spirit that tells you God wants you as a Stephen Minister. If you would like to talk further about Stephen Ministry or if you have gotten the call please talk with Carol Carlos at 941-255-3354 or I'll see you in church.

"Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not men." Ephesians 6:7

Submitted by Carol Carlos

Thrivent News

At our congregational Thrivent meeting in October, we voted to again provide the supper for the Christmas carolers on Sunday, December 9. We voted to donate all the proceeds from our January Rummage Sale to the Horvath Family Fund and are applying to the Charlotte County Chapter for matching funds. The Charlotte County Chapter needs more people for the Board. There are openings for a Youth Director, Community Service Team Director, and an Event Director. If you are interested, see Tim Byrne.

In other news, for our own congregation to continue to receive matching funds for its activities (spaghetti supper, style show, bazaar, etc) we will need at least two congregational coordinators for 2008. Michelle Ferrier will be resigning from her position on the County Board at the end of 2007, and does not plan to serve as our congregational coordinator in 2008.

Voting for Redeemer Lutheran Church for the Charlotte County Chapter Board will be held on Sunday, November 11, between services and after late church. Please plan to vote.

There will be a coffee hour fundraiser/door offering for **Veterans of the Cross** on Sunday, November 25. **Six Thrivent households** will need to bring something for the coffee hour. The County Chapter is donating \$400 in matching fund monies for this activity. If you are willing to help, please let Michelle Ferrier know.

Also, the Charlotte County Chapter Board is still collecting donations for the Habitat House on Keeler Avenue in Port Charlotte. If you would like to make a contribution, please make your checks payable to **Thrivent Builds** and give to Michelle. Cash donations are accepted as well.

Submitted by Michelle Ferrier

Veterans Day High School Bible Class

The High School Bible Study class will be writing letters to American servicemen and women on Veterans Day, November 11. Any members of the congregation who wish to submit letters for the youth to mail should give these letters to Michelle Ferrier. The youth will also be packing boxes to send to any soldier. If you would like to help with this endeavor, please place your items in the box in the Narthex. The following items are being collected as well as items on the list that was published earlier in the year in the newsletter.

Snack size bags of chips/cookies	Licorice	Toothbrush
Rice Krispie treats (not homemade)	Jerky	Toothpaste
Mach 3 or Fusion razors w/blades	DVDs	Paperbacks
Gummi bears	Slim Jims	Deodorant
Lip balm with sunscreen	Sun block/screen	Socks
Beanie Babies (to give to Iraqi children)	Sunflower seeds	Chunky Soup
Campbell's select soups	Fruit cups	Tuna lunch kit
Chicken salad and crackers	Combs	Shampoo
M&Ms kudo bars	Raisins	Chex Mix
Honey roasted peanuts	Magazines	Hand sanitizer
Snyders peanut & pretzel sandwiches	Nail clippers	Shave gel
Microwave popcorn	CDs	Combos
Theater snack candy (hot tamales, etc.)	Fruit snacks	Starburst
Zingers-to-go (powdered drink addition)	Clif energy bars	Chewing gum
Anti-bacterial wipes	Hand/foot warmers	Cotton swabs
Razors for women	Foot powder	Tissues
Pony tail holders	Panty liners	Dental floss
Tampax compact tampons	Small pillow	Mouthwash

Thank you for your help with this project. If you have questions or additional ideas, please contact Michelle Ferrier (697-0502). Remember, many of these items should not be full size (shampoo, mouthwash, large containers of snacks, etc.).

Submitted by Michelle Ferrier

Oct. 1, 2007

Dear Congregation,

Thank you very much for staffing our food pantry with volunteers during the month of September. Thank you also for your generous donations of food and money. Your continued support and generosity truly makes a difference to those less fortunate in our community.

Sincerely,

Sharon Hodgdon, Corresponding Secretary



Outreach



"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." --Matthew 28:19

When Jesus raised the widow's son from death (Luke 7:11-17), the people who witnessed this miracle were filled with awe and praised God. Jesus has also performed the miracle of raising us to new life through his death and resurrection. The power and presence of his Holy Spirit now helps us be bold witnesses of our Christian hope. Remember that he is always with us and will give us the words to speak. Trust in him.

Weekend Signs

Since Redeemer does not front on a main road, it is difficult for people to know that we exist or where we are located. That is why the Board of Outreach has been planting signs around our community on the weekends. This campaign has been quite successful. Recently, however, the County removed and confiscated about 15 of our signs in a crackdown over the entire county. Since it is technically illegal to put up this type of sign on the county right of ways, the Board has decided that we would no longer put up the weekend signs. Fortunately, through, one of our members was able to get back our signs.

We are therefore again appealing to you, our members, to place signs in your front yards, especially if you live on a main street, such as Gulfstream or Spinnaker. Please contact Carol Haupt if you would be able to put a sign in your front yard. Every little bit helps!
460-8830.

Magnetic Car Signs

Another great way to help us make our community aware of Redeemer (both the church and Child Care), is to affix magnetic signs on our cars. You've all seen the Fellowship signs. They are quite effective. The Outreach Board has ordered a quantity of such signs for our members to "wear" on their cars. These signs will cost \$5.00. Watch the Bulletin for information on how to order your sign.

New Tract Rack

The new tract rack is now in the Narthex. If you haven't already seen it you are invited to check it out (between the drinking fountain and the New Member pictures). Tracts are an excellent way to spread the word about our Lord and about our church and child care.

Take a look at the tracts—there are many subjects. There must be some that would be appropriate to give to friends or neighbors. Leave them at restaurants, doctors' offices, etc. Please help us be a part of this new outreach ministry.

(Continued on Page 24)

Outreach



(Continued From Page 23)

Pioneer Days Parade (Labor Day)

Redeemer's participation in Englewood's Pioneer Days Parade was very successful. Eleven of our members, decked out in pirate garb, walked the parade route (led by Pastor's truck and our Redeemer banner). Many thanks to Pastor, Michelle, Nancy and Lexi Gunterman, the Altmann grandkids, Sam Jollay, Ray Janssen, Margie Cypher, Lillian Miles' granddaughter, and Carol Haupt. Lillian lives on the parade route and put a Redeemer sign in her front yard—it's still there! We passed out Redeemer pencils (a very popular item) and brochures about Redeemer. We talked to hundreds of people along the parade route and generally had a very good time. This was a fun way to participate in sharing the Good News. See photos in this issue.

Placida Nautical Flea Market (Oct. 20-21)

As this newsletter goes to press, I am at our booth at the Nautical Flea Market. Carol, Shirley and Ernie Ferguson, Karen and Tommy Kirkland, Marj and Harvey Sterriker, and Sam Jollay are "manning" our booth. It rained, but we were not deterred. This was a great opportunity to meet and greet our Englewood area citizens, talk to them about our church and Child Care, and advertise our Ladies Guild Bazaar coming up on Nov. 17. These are all outreach opportunities. (See pictures.)

Halloween Safe Walk (Oct. 31)

Redeemer participated in the Halloween Safe Walk on Dearborn Street this year. We had a table set up and passed out our candy to the expected 5000+ kids. We had our Redeemer banner prominently displayed, and talked to people about our church and Child Care. Another wonderful outreach opportunity! By being a sponsor of the Safe Walk, Redeemer was also included in the 2800 flyers distributed to the Elementary Schools the week prior to Halloween and included in all radio and newspaper advertising.

Rotonda Christmas Parade (December 2)

We are hoping to be able to participate in Rotonda's new Christmas parade this year. Watch the Sunday Bulletin for information on how you can participate.

After Jesus cast out the demons of a man he told him, *"Go home and tell how much God has done for you."* --Luke 8:39

Submitted by Carol Haupt

Messiah Migrant Mission Angel Gift Tree

Messiah Migrant Mission is sending us 100 names of children in need of Christmas gifts. We can show the love of Christ, our greatest gift, by providing special presents for these needy children. Our youth will also be purchasing some of these gifts.

The angel tree will be in the Narthex with age and gender given on the "ornament tags."

1. Please take a tag and sign the sheet indicating what number(s) you have chosen.
2. Purchase a \$15-\$20 give appropriate for the child you picked. Don't wrap!
3. Bring the unwrapped gift back to the Narthex and place it under the tree. Attach the tag along with the receipt (or copy). (We need the receipts for the Thrivent matching fund program).
4. Check Sunday bulletins for the deadline date.
5. Date(s) will be set for wrapping the gifts. Please consider helping with this task.

Thank you all for your loving support of this deserving mission project!

Submitted by Marj Sterriker

It's a Wrap!

Junior and Senior High Youth are buying gifts for the Messiah Migrant Ministry Angel Tree for their November Youth Activity on **Sunday, November 11!** We will have lunch in the Fellowship Hall after late church and then get our names/money to go shopping. **Adult drivers are needed.**

Then on **Monday, November 12**, the Youth will meet in the Narthex for chili and wraps, and we will wrap the gifts we bought. Afterwards, we will play some games. There will be door prizes! See you there!

Please remember to let Mrs. Ferrier (697-0502) know by Saturday, November 10, if you are planning to participate. These activities earn community service hours for high school youth!

Submitted by Michelle Ferrier

Ushers



USHERS NEEDED

Anyone who would like the opportunity to be an usher, please do not hesitate to sign your name on the chart on the wall outside the kitchen in the Narthex, or call me. You do not have to do it for a whole month at a time. You only need to sign up for those times that are convenient for you. This is a rewarding way to serve in God's house.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call me, Pat Wilcoxon. My home # is 941-697-2638, cell # 941-416-4133 or the church office 941-475-2410.

Thank you, Pat Wilcoxon, Head Usher

From the Office

Northern Members When you return, remember to check in with the Church Secretary to let her know you are here.

Please make the following changes to your bright yellow 2007 Directory:

ADDRESS CHANGES

Patrick, Jacki & Alex Wall Address: 8079 Clyde Circle, Port Charlotte, FL. 33981
(941) 697-7820

MOVED BACK NORTH

Shirley Dierman Address: 8 Myrtle Rd., Voluntown, CT. 06351

Jerry & Johanna McConnell Address: Aiken, South Carolina

Virginia (Ginny) Roussin Address: 11716 Hidden Lake Dr. #10, St. Louis, MO. 63138
(314) 355-2199

REMOVED FROM MEMBERSHIP by Peaceful Release

Erwin & Maureen Nesvacil

DECEASED

Lydia Klinger October 2, 2007

Changes are thru October 21st, 2007

Thank you, Pat Wilcoxon, Church Secretary

