



“WHY THE STORIES OF THE BIBLE ARE GREAT LESSONS TODAY ”

The stories in the Bible are not just “stories,” but they are the history of God’s people and His plan and work of salvation for His people. Attending Bible Class and Sunday School are places where children and adults can learn about these stories. Moreover, being familiar with the stories of the Bible can also be of a great lesson in our life today.

When you hear and learn of the stories of the generations of your family which preceded you, you realize that their stories are what they were about. And since you are related to them, those stories become a part of you, too. For example, let’s say your great-grandfather owned a Model T Ford? You knew through the story told to you by your father or grandfather that he had to back his Model T up the hill in order for the gasoline to run from the gravity-fed gas tank to the carburetor. This story teaches you where your own ingenuity and skill comes from. This story serves as a great lesson in life too.

The Bible stories contained in God’s Word are there in order to teach us. In fact, the apostle

Paul says, “Now these things happened to [Old Testament Israel] as an example, but they were written down for our learning, on whom the end of the ages has come” (1 Corinthians 10:11).

Even since before the nomination of the candidates from the two largest political parties were officially made, I have seen lots and lots of lamenting, complaining, and angry posts on Facebook and internet blogs about the charged political climate in which we live. Guess what? THIS IS NOTHING NEW! IN FACT ...

“OUR POLITICAL LEADERS DON’T CARE ABOUT US!”

There is certainly nothing new in the complaint above. Do you remember the children of Israel who lived in Egypt? That family’s “history” was that they had traveled to Egypt during the time when Joseph had enjoyed favor with the Pharaoh of Egypt.

You might recall that Joseph, through a series of terrible events (brotherly jealousy), ended up in the land of Egypt where God gave him the gift of

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## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

### The below message was given by President Stephen Wurster at the July 17, 2016 Voter's Assembly Meeting

As Pastor Kress mentioned several weeks ago in his opening remarks before Divine Service.....We are into the Dog Days of Summer....

The “dog days,” I always thought, were those summer days so devastatingly hot that even dogs would lie around on the asphalt, panting.

Many people today use the phrase to mean something like that—but originally; the phrase actually had nothing to do with dogs, or even with the lazy days of summer. Instead, it turns out, the dog days refer to the dog star, Sirius, and its position in the heavens.

To the Greeks and Romans, the “dog days” occurred around the day when Sirius appeared to rise just before the sun, in late July. They referred to these days as the hottest time of the year, a period that could bring fever, or even catastrophe.

Now, what does that have to do with us? Probably nothing.

With that said, at least for us it means that our Northern Brothers and Sisters in Christ are in fact up North enjoying hopefully a little bit cooler weather. It also means that we here at Redeemer see our weekly church attendance at an average of 70.

Each summer it becomes more of a challenge to meet our financial needs. This summer is no different. As published in our weekly bulletin and in the Redeemer Reporter, we need \$4036.71 each week in order to balance our budget. We on an average have been receiving about \$2,000 per week in regular envelopes and cash. We are blessed that our

Fellowship Hall rentals make up some of the difference.

The Church Council is concerned that although we do have limited resources to cover these shortfalls, drawing from these reserve accounts cannot be sustainable over the long term.

What needs to be done? We need to either bring in additional revenue or reduce our current spending. I can assure you that our Treasurer Denise and the Council have been looking at ways to do both.

Unfortunately we have many of our regular members who for whatever reasons are not attending church on a regular basis. One way to increase revenue would be to work aggressively to get our fellow members to attend. As Pastor Kress so well said in the June Newsletter and I quote:

*“Each year we submit our congregation statistics to the District office. As of our last submission, Redeemer has a total of 166 members, including 28 children under confirmation age. This number does not include our faithful Associate Members. Our attendance in church services have been, well, rather bleak.*

*Two weeks ago there were 49 attending Divine Service. Last week only 61. The numbers just don't add up. Where are all the people? Where are all the children? Have you forgotten what the Lord has done for you?*

*“Return to the Lord your God, you and your children, and obey His voice in all that I command you today, with all your heart and with all your soul, then the Lord your God will restore your fortunes and have mercy on you, and He will gather you again from all the peoples” .*

*The Law of God serves a purpose: to open*

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## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

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*our blind eyes to recognize and acknowledge our sin in order that we may desire the sweet sound of the Gospel saving message of Jesus. Therefore, "Return to the Lord your God, for He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love".*

*When Jesus was getting ready to depart to another region, the man who was demon-possessed begged Jesus that he might go with Him. But, Jesus would not permit him, yet said to him, "Go home to your friends and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and how He has had mercy on you." See you in church where the Lord is always and ever present and where He supplies us with His gifts in both Word and Sacrament. These numbers always add up to great blessings for those who receive them.*

The other side of this is our spending. We have a large facility to care for and lots of grounds to maintain. Only this past month we had nearly \$3000 in Air Conditioner repairs. The Council is always looking at ways to reduce our costs. As you know, Deb Horner, our Church Secretary has been so blessed and will be married in September. Her last week here at Redeemer will be in late September. Although we all are so happy for her, we also will

experience a great loss of what she does in our Church office. Consideration is being given to see if an all-volunteer office staff would possibly work, at least in the interim until our finances improve. That is something the Council will be looking into.

Another possible recommendation will be to see if we can turn our lawn care into a voluntary effort. We currently spend over \$7000 annually to mow and that would result in a substantial savings for Redeemer.

Both of these will be prayerfully considered. I would also appreciate any and all feedback from you, the Voting Membership on other ways we might consider to increase revenue and reduce spending levels. If you have any suggestions please feel free to contact me at anytime.

I will be asking for your support later in this meeting to transfer \$15,000 from the Wind/Hail Reserve Fund into the General Operating Fund. Our treasurer believes that this should take care of any shortfall through the end of this year.

God has blessed us with this beautiful Church and a wonderful caring person in Pastor Kress. I know that with your continued prayers and support, we will continue to grow serving Christ our Redeemer.



## STEWARDSHIP

“**T**hanks be to God for His inexpressible gift” (2 Cor. 9:15)! This is St. Paul’s exclamation upon hearing the Corinthian church’s response to the preaching of the Gospel of Jesus Christ and his request for support for the Church in Jerusalem. The Christians in Corinth heard and received God’s mercy in Christ, and they responded to St. Paul’s call to support Christians in Jerusalem with a collection. The Corinthian’s joy filled Jerusalem’s need.

This is the reality of stewardship. Because of God’s generosity in the giving of His Son to die on the cross for us, we are to be generous with all that we receive from Him. What do we receive? Everything. All that we are and all that we have is the Lord’s. He is the creator and the giver. We are His creatures and those who receive what He gives.

It sounds easy. And it is. But then again it isn’t. Stewardship is easy because it God’s work. Through what God gives, we give to others. Through what God gives, we support the work of the church for the life of the world. He gives; we receive. And like our generous Father in Heaven, we, as His children, use what He gives to us to love and serve others.

But stewardship is also difficult. That is because it goes against our natural inclination to think that what I have is mine to do what I want with. This is our sinful nature. It is our selfishness and our greed. How can we who have been given everything—life, food, clothing, house, home, forgiveness, divine sonship, an eternal inheritance—be so stingy with what we give to the church, the place where we hear about and receive all that God gives us and does for us? We are all guilty of this kind of thinking. And the only godly response is to repent and trust in the Gospel.

For if God has given you His own Son, will He not give you all things? Yes. He will. This is His sure and certain promise. God provides for His people. He provides everything we need for this body and life and for the life that is to come.

The church is a mercy place. It’s a place where God’s mercy in the death and resurrection of His Son, Jesus Christ, is given and received. For we who believe in Christ, it means forgiveness, life, and salvation in the face of sin, death, and the power of the devil. Here in the church we inhale God’s mercy in Word and Sacrament, and exhale this same mercy in love and service to our neighbor. And that is an enduring, joyful thing to do. Our joy fills our neighbor’s need because His joy filled ours (Heb. 12:2). Thanks be to God for His inexpressible gift!



For where your treasure is,  
there your heart will be also.

Matthew 6:21

# FUND RAISING GOAL FOR REPAIRING & PAINTING STUCCO ON CHURCH



- ◆ Paint the exterior of Redeemer Lutheran Church
- ◆ Pressure clean to remove dirt, mildew and bug residue
- ◆ Patch cracks with textured elastomeric patching compound
  
- ◆ 1st Coat:
  - ◆ Masonry Conditioner
  - ◆ Prime all new stucco with Loxon Hot Stucco Primer
  
- ◆ 2nd Coat:
  - ◆ 100% Acrylic Super Paint Stain by Sherwin Williams

## SERVING THE LORD

Pastor Rev. James Kress  
 Seasonal Pastor  
LHM Ambassador

Child Care Director Wendy Horvath  
 Office Secretary Deb Horner  
 Organist Bill Bowers  
 Choir Director Collins Sita  
 Newsletter Editor Deb Horner

### OFFICERS

President Stephen Wurster  
 Vice President Terry Fountain  
 Treasurer Denise Fountain  
 Secretary June Brown

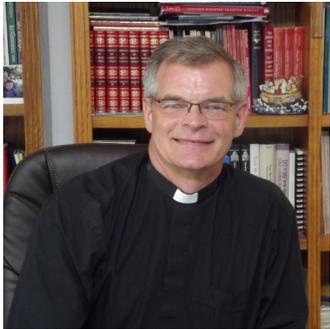
### BOARDS

Head Elder Collins Sita  
 Christian Ed. Pam Replinger  
Human Care  
 Outreach Cindy Johnson  
Assimilation  
 School Board Bill Bowers  
 Stewardship Rev. Mark Steinke  
 Youth James Straw  
 Financial Secretary Deb Horner  
 Property Mgmt. Jim Metzger

### GROUPS/GUILDS

Ladies Guild Sally Zierdt  
Men's Group  
Altar Guild  
Coffee Hour

## “WHY THE STORIES OF THE BIBLE ARE GREAT LESSONS TODAY ”



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interpreting Pharaoh's dreams. The result of Joseph's interpretation meant that he became second in charge

next to Pharaoh. Certainly a most powerful man! When Joseph heard that a terrible drought had caused his family to run out of food, and that some of his brothers had come to buy food from Egypt, Joseph orchestrated the events in such a way that his whole family ended up living in the land of Egypt where they found good employment, and ate well. Thanks to Joseph's favored status before Pharaoh, they were given some choice land in which they lived and flourished.

However, that didn't last very long. As is the case, eventually things change! Joseph and his generation died. Yet, the people of Israel flourished and grew in number.

But then Pharaoh died and a new king took over in Egypt who did not know about or care about Joseph. He considered the people of Israel, who were growing larger and larger in number, to be a possible threat to him. So what does he do? He actually turned God's people into slaves! The Biblical record tells us that they were the ones who built the cities of Pithom and Ramses, great cities whose ruins we can still examine.

Nevertheless the Egyptian King made their lives miserable as they made bricks and built cities as the slaves which they had become. The king of Egypt even tried to practice a kind of genocide against the Israelites, telling the midwives to murder any baby boys born to the Israelites.

This went on for 400 years! Surely they cried out to God! Surely one of their cries to heaven

may have sounded like: "GOD, THIS WICKED KING (POLITICIAN) DOES NOT CARE ABOUT US!" Behind their prayer may also have been the accusation, "And, God, maybe that means that You don't care about us either!"

### THEY SOUGHT A DELIVERER

I have no doubt that the people passed on "the story" of their forefathers Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob (Israel), and that they knew how they had come to live in Egypt when Joseph ruled. But now, for generations, they had no earthly leader who cared for them. What now?

Should they try to organize against the Egyptians and lead a revolt against Pharaoh and his armies? No, for they knew that they had no chance of that. In fact, because Pharaoh feared the possibility of just that, he had ordered the baby boys to be murdered upon birth.

They lived and they prayed and looked about anxiously, wondering if anyone truly did care about them. Sound familiar?

You know, of course, that the Lord finally decided to send them Moses. But he didn't look like much of a leader to them! If they had heard of Moses' name, they would have known that he used to be a part of Pharaoh's household until he killed a man who was guarding the slaves. Then, when Pharaoh discovered that Moses' lineage was that of a Hebrew, Moses had fled from Egypt. That had taken place some many years before, so that the chances were slim that any of the Israelites knew who he was.

One of the truly odd things about deliverers, and especially the deliverers whom the Lord chooses, is that they are not like everyone else!

“OUR LEADERS WORSHIP IDOLS”

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I am certain that this, too, may have been part of the Israelite slaves' lament. If I were an Israelite, I suppose I too would have complained that, on top of everything else, I was sure that Pharaoh did not worship the true God. I might well have thought: “After all, that might make God a bit more sympathetic to my dilemma.”

There is certainly plenty evidence that many of the “leaders” in the Old Testament – and even a number of the kings which later ruled Israel – were idolaters. Pharaoh of Egypt at the time of Israel's release from captivity had almost surely declared himself to be a god – for that was the custom of that day in Egypt. It is also pretty clear that, as God brought His plagues against the Egyptians (to “let My people go!”), He made it clear that He IS the God of all creation. His plagues of turning the water into blood, and the plagues of frogs, gnats, and flies, against the livestock, and the plagues of boils, hail, and locusts, and the plague of darkness all show clearly that He is Lord (Creator!) of all things so that they are under His command! The Egyptians, as did many of the ancients (and even people today), who did not know God had made up gods whom they worshiped who would have been in charge of all of these things. Especially, in Egypt, there was the sun god (Ra) who was considered the number one god, but God clearly shows that HE ALONE is the GOD OF ALL CREATION.

In the final plague against Egypt, the deaths of the firstborn in every household demonstrated that God is truly greater than the idol which He would later despise the most (if such a thing can be said). Molech was the ancient idol who required the sacrifice of children!! For the sake of some favor to be gleaned from Molech (ironically, fertility), the idol would be heated to red hot and then a family's baby would be place upon it, and the baby would be burned to death.

However, God is far and away more powerful than any idol others might worship or even make up. Furthermore, the One True God is truly able to serve us even if and/or when political leaders (like Pharaoh and those of today) stubbornly worship themselves or other gods, God can and will keep us despite – and He will eventually deliver us from – politicians whose church confesses that abortion is a sin, yet the politician justifies his/her support of the murder of the unborn by saying, “Well, my church is against it, and I personally am against it, but in my politics I am for it.” Make no mistake: that is the idol of “get elected no matter what you have to say or do.”

Here's a shocker: OUR LEADERS DON'T KEEP THEIR WORD! Boy, how often that must have been said down through the annals of history! It is a shame that politicians cannot keep their word. Yet, we seek comfort knowing our Lord keeps His Word.

It is a very sad truth that people have always struggled because of leaders who did not keep their word. Sometimes the kings and politicians made promises which they fully intended to keep but then circumstances changed and they were unable to do what they had campaigned to do. In other cases, we are sure that there are those who make false promises simply so that they can use their promises to manipulate and deceive people. In either situation, it leaves behind a wake of disappointment and cynicism which can even turn into full scale despair which can then manifest itself in all kinds of inappropriate ways; sinful ways; immoral ways.

In the case of Pharaoh, he would see and confess the power of God, and then he would tell Moses that he would let Israel go, but then he would always renege on his promise, and try

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## “WHY THE STORIES OF THE BIBLE ARE GREAT LESSONS TODAY ”

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to draw the people back into slavery again. How weary people become when promise after promise means absolutely nothing!

OH, GOD, SAVE US!

After the Israelites were brought out of Egypt, they complained. They accused Moses, and they accused the Lord God, of bringing them out into the wilderness to die. They said that they would rather have been in Egypt where they imagined their lives were so much better (and this is so NOT true!).

But, despite all of the above and more, God came to rescue His people. Time and time again, God rescues His sinful people. In fact, the big saving work of God in the Old Testament is the Passover just before Israel was let go from Egypt, and the saving of Israel as they passed through the Red Sea. God clearly demonstrated His almighty power over mere earthly rulers when He brought mighty Pharaoh of Egypt to his knees with His final plague against Egypt. God also brought Israel to the edge of the Red Sea where they cried out in great fear that they would surely be killed by the pursuing Egyptian army. And then God humiliated this “mighty” Pharaoh when the Lord drowned Pharaoh’s army in the Red Sea.

Moses and all of Israel, as well as Moses’ sister Miriam even sang the songs/psalms of Exodus in praise to God because He had delivered His people from imminent danger and even death. (Exodus 15).

Beloved in Christ Jesus our Redeemer and Friend, let us all remember that God has prepared for you “a table in the presence of your enemy!” The great and awful powers of the devil and hell were all defeated when Jesus Christ died on Good Friday! Jesus made the victorious announcement of His saving work

when, on Easter morning, He rose from the grave!

You have access to this grace of God in the gifts which He gives you every Sunday morning! Your baptism is the assurance that He has not, and never will, abandon you nor forsake you! His Word, with its promise of the forgiveness of sins, restores you as you live continually under His grace, even in the midst of a hotly contested political season. And of course, He gives you His true Body and true Blood which forgives and strengthens you, and reveals to you right now your heavenly home which awaits all believers in Jesus Christ.

POWERFUL LESSONS FOR US!

If God could save His people from the miserable, despicable tyrants of the ancient world, He who does not ever change and keeps His Word can surely preserve you – no matter who gets elected!

Remember my friends, God always wins! It is not always obvious how He wins or is winning, but He always win. God often wins as He reveals Himself to be seemingly weak, but again, fear not, He always win! And His win is always for your benefit.

God always has a plan! He took a relatively small family into Egypt and used their 400 bitter years there to build a nation which He would call His own! He held them, saved them, protected them, fed them, and brought them to their “promised land.” He preserved them from hunger and famine, and from their enemies. He sometimes permitted them to suffer but then He would always bring them out “on top.”

The holy Christian Church is the “new Israel” which is the recipient of ALL of God’s promises of old! He will always bring you

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## “WHY THE STORIES OF THE BIBLE ARE GREAT LESSONS TODAY ”

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through your troubles to deliver you safe on the other side. This is true for Christians but not for unbelievers, so we want to guard our faith and encourage one another regularly.

To be sure, this Bible story is a valuable lesson for us today. Hear many more Bible stories in Bible Class and encourage your children to attend Sunday School so that you and your children can share the amazing stories of the Bible that always reveal God’s love for you

and His entire creation.

So don’t forget, no matter who gets elected this fall, God will show you that He has prepared heaven for you. Do not put your trust or confidence in an election or in a man or a woman. Our help comes in the name of the Lord. Amen. Come, Lord Jesus! Come quickly.

Yours in Christ our Savior,  
Pastor Kress



# ST. JUDE HEROES

Many of you may already know that Lisa and I are running in the Bank of America Chicago Marathon as St. Jude Heroes to support St. Jude Children's Research Hospital's lifesaving mission: Finding cures; Saving children. We are training hard. We don’t want to disappoint the kids in need of help and healing. We also want to help make sure that families never receive a bill from St. Jude for treatment, travel, housing or food — because all a family should worry about is helping their child live joyfully.

We would like to ask for your prayerful and financial support to help us reach our fundraising goals. Lisa needs to raise \$1,500 and I need to raise \$1,200 before the deadline of Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup>. The Chicago Marathon is Sunday, October 9<sup>th</sup>, but they need to receive the fundraising donations ahead of time. I hope you understand.

Please visit our personal pages below to make a donation. Please prayerfully help us reach our financial goals for the kids.

Lisa’s personal page: [http://fundraising.stjude.org/site/TR/Heroes/Heroes?px=3885199&pg=personal&fr\\_id=57054](http://fundraising.stjude.org/site/TR/Heroes/Heroes?px=3885199&pg=personal&fr_id=57054)

Pastor’s personal page:  
<http://heroes.stjude.org/pastorkress>

Did you know that the daily operating cost for St. Jude is \$2.2 million, which is primarily covered by individual contributors? That means your donation, no matter what the size, will help!

Thank you in advance for your generosity and your support!

Yours in Jesus,  
Pastor & Lisa Kress

## POSITION DESCRIPTIONS

Below are just a few of the positions which are vacant at this time. Please read the descriptions and prayerfully consider stepping up to fill one of these positions. Without the many wonderful and faithful volunteers, we would not be able to fully minister to our congregation and the community.



**SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT:** The primary duties would be to coordinate the schedules for Sunday School teachers, prepare the materials & make sure they are available, review attendance and work with parents to encourage attendance and see if rides are needed (not to necessarily provide the rides, but to contact somebody who could); work with Pam Replinger to address any concerns of Sunday School teachers, and assist in Rally Day and Vacation Bible School as able.

**BOARD OF HUMAN CARE:** The Chair of this very critical board works closely with the Pastor to insure proper care to individual members and families of the congregation. The Board of Human Care is expansive as it gives attention to emotional, physical, psychological, and spiritual maladies of God's people. With the help of the Pastor, the Chair trains members of the Board of Human Care to make hospital visits as well as visits to the shut-in and the infirm. The Chair oversees a prayer-chain with members who are not connected to the internet to receive E-prayers. The Chair also assigns a Coordinator to other programs of mercy within the congregation, i.e. Monthly Blood Pressure, Disaster Preparedness, Stephen Ministries, Caring Network, Cards of Comfort, and Christian Support Groups. The Board of Human Care may also participate in community events, i.e. Blood Drives and Relay For Life. The Chair of this board is also required to attend the monthly Church Council Meeting (2<sup>nd</sup> Monday at 7 PM), and prepare a brief report of the board's work to the Council and to the Voters' Assembly each quarter.

**BOARD OF ASSIMILATION:** The Chair of this important board works with the Pastor and the Chairs of other boards and committees to integrate new members into the life of the congregation. The Chair monitors the guidelines for proper use of the visitor's desk in the narthex. The Chair delegates the following responsibilities to the members of the Board of Assimilation: Supply greeters for Sunday Church services; Provide 'visitor bags' for first time visitors to Redeemer before Sunday services; Provide New Member Packets for all incoming new members; Take pictures of all new members; Place pictures in New Member Showcase (located in the narthex); and Provide the Newsletter Editor with pictures of all new members. The Chair of this board is also required to attend the monthly Church Council Meeting (2<sup>nd</sup> Monday at 7 PM), and prepare a brief report of the board's work to the Council and to the Voters' Assembly each quarter.



AUGUST 2016

## TRAVELS OF AQUILA AND PRISCILLA

**D**ear brothers and sisters in Christ, we have gone as far south as we had planned and now starting our way north and east towards Minneapolis, MN to complete our journey.

When we drove the Nebo Loop Byway we met another traveling couple that suggested we should visit Capital Reefs NP. Our plan was to go directly to Arches NP after visiting Bryce & Zion, but of course we altered our plans and visited Capital Reefs. What a delight that park was for a couple of reasons. First, it wasn't as crowded as some of the other parks and most important the views of the various hoodoos was outstanding. It was fascinating to see the various shapes of the hoodoos.

Next on our list was Arches NP. Here one can see hoodoos as well as other rock formations including many arches. With a little bit of imagination one can visualize various animals, people and other things that appear to have been sculpted. The arches are formed on rock walls by a type of rock that when it breaks loose from the wall does so as a slab. Whereas, the rock on top of the wall is of a different type, thus a hole or an arch is created. This park gets pretty crowded and unfortunately many people choose to ignore the park rules to stay on paths and off the arches. It is sad to say we foresee the day in which the only way one will be able to see these fabulous formations will be from a park shuttle or tour bus.

One cannot leave Southeast Utah without making a stop at Four Corners. This is the only place in the USA where you can be in four different states at the same time. We can actually say we were in Colorado, Utah, Nevada and Arizona since we stood exactly on the spot where the four states touch each other.

On our way to Durango CO, we visited Mesa Verde NP. In addition to outstanding vistas it also has several cliff dwellings that date back to the 1300's. One of which is the best

preserved in the USA. The interesting part about these cliff dwellings is that no logical explanation has been uncovered as to why these



people, who once lived and farmed above the cliff, chose to move their dwellings down into the cliff and continue to farm on top of the cliff. It appears the dwellings were only occupied for several decades and then the people just seemed to have vanished.

While at Mesa Verde we were chatting with one of the rangers and we mentioned that we were surprised as to how crowded some of the parks have been. He said, "We are loving our parks to death. For example, in the summer, an average of 1000 people a day tour one of the cliff dwellings.

These structures are being worn down just by the sheer volume of people. One of the problems they are working on is how can they protect these national treasures and still have the people enjoy them."

Durango was once a mining town, now a neat tourist town but best of all it's the home of the Durango Silverton Narrow Gauge Rail Road. Aquila had been waiting for about 50 years since he heard about that train to go for a ride. The neat thing about this train ride is that the railroad has been around since 1883. One gets to ride vintage coach cars being pulled by a steam engine through the beautiful San Juan National Forest for the most part alongside a raging mountain river, up steep grades, through narrow gorges, and outstanding vistas up to Silverton, another old mining town. Two hours later we took the train back to Durango. This was a perfect day for a train lover.

While in Durango we took the opportunity to drive to Quay another old mining town, now a cute tourist destination. Along the way we

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## TRAVELS OF AQUILA AND PRISCILLA

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passed a couple of old mining towns and the only remains being chained up mining shafts and derelict houses. The vistas along the way are outstanding. The highest mountain pass we have gone through had an elevation over 11,000 ft. At the pass we had the pleasure of driving through rain mixed with snow and on the way back hail.

Before we headed to Gunnison, we had the opportunity to worship at St. Paul Lutheran Church. Unfortunately for us they only have communion on the first and third Sunday of the month.

This part of Colorado is beautiful with mountains, ranches and incredible views. Notice we don't mention waterfalls any more although we have seen many, since there is lots of snow on the mountain peaks, including one in which the water was spewing over the edge with such force that it looked like a huge fire hydrant wide open. We found ourselves driving through elevations ranging from 7000 to 11200 ft. and surrounding mountain peaks close to 14000 ft.

We drove by the headwaters of the Rio Grande which is our third longest river. It starts in the mountains of Colorado, winds itself through Colorado and New Mexico and separates Texas from Mexico before it flows into the Gulf of Mexico. We also passed by the headwaters of the Arkansas River, our 6th longest river. After leaving Colorado, it travels through Kansas, Oklahoma, and Arkansas before it flows into the Mississippi.

We spent the night in Leadville, (in the late 1800's it was the place to be for mining gold and silver) whose claim to fame now is that at 10,400 ft. in elevation is our highest incorporated city. For us flat landers we found it somewhat challenging when walking up any incline, also, we woke up in the morning with headaches and somewhat light headed.

The drive on I-70 east to Denver is one outstanding vista after another.

We choose to spend several days in Denver since we needed a little time to regroup, take care of some personnel business, get the van serviced and spend some time with Priscilla's cousin and his wife which we have not seen in about ten years. It was fun catching up with them.

Close to our hotel was Beautiful Savior, fortunately for us they had communion. What a blessing that was for both of us.

Priscilla likes to see old mansions, so of course we had to see Molly Brown's house. Her real name was Margaret, but you might recall the movie, "The Unsinkable Molly Brown", since then she became known as Molly Brown.

For educational purposes, since occasionally we both enjoy a glass or two of "Lutheran Coffee", we felt it necessary to venture to the western outskirts of Denver, to the city of Golden, which lies in the foot hills of the Rockies, to investigate a facility called Miller Coors. We want to assure you that the free samples had nothing to do with our desire to visit the facility. This facility is probably the largest and most impressive brewing facility we have ever visited and we think it is the largest one in the nation. By the way, it does make a difference when it's nice and cold and freshly brewed. Yummy.

Since Alaska, Priscilla has been on the lookout for big horn sheep. We have not seen any but we keep seeing road signs saying watch out for them and some states even have animal detection systems to warn drivers when animals are near the road. On our journey we have seen many signs warning us of various animals. Although we have seen many animals we have yet to see any animals near these signs. We have come to the belief these signs are really animal repellants.

*(Continued on page 13)*

## TRAVELS OF AQUILA AND PRISCILLA

*(Continued from page 12)*

Our last hope to see big horn sheep was at Rocky Mountain NP, so off we went. Lo and behold, just as we were ready to leave the place in the park that offers the best possible chance to see them, one ewe decided to make her presence. Our mission was accomplished.

The ewes don't have the same impressive horns that the rams get because when they reach breeding age about one year old their body focuses on being able to produce a lamb and nurture the lamb. They can only support one lamb at a time.

Along with big horn sheep there is also many deer and elk. We drove by a large herd of elk. The road through the park offers great views. The vistas are awesome, the only drawback to the park was it was very crowded. They get a million visitors in their peak 6 weeks. The park sits at a pretty high altitude, the highest point on the park road is 12,183 feet. Aquilla, had symptoms of altitude sickness, being shortness of breath, dizziness and headache.

We decided it best to get down below 10,000 ft. and wound up having a late lunch in Estes Park, a pretty tourist town, but even for a week day very crowded.

On our drive through our Thunder Basin National Grassland to the Northeast corner of Wyoming we spotted several herds of antelope with their young. What a sight this must have been when these vast grasslands were covered with herds of bison.

The drive from Gillette, WY to Spearfish, SD is very scenic. One drives past probably the largest open pit coal mine in the U S and as you approach the Black Hills National Forest the scenery gets very pleasant, serene, and pastoral.

A surprise along the way for us was, Devils Tower National Monument. The geologist

believe it was formed by molten magma that was forced up through sedimentary rock and cooled underground. As it cooled it contracted and fractured into columns. Through the years the sedimentary rock eroded exposing the tear shaped tower which is 867 feet high and at its base has a diameter of 1000 feet. Of particular interest to us was the large colony of black-tailed prairie dogs near the park entrance. It was fascinating watching these little animals. The ones close to us appeared to be pregnant or perhaps blotted up from eating a lot of grass.

It has been about 40 years since we have been in this part of the country, so we decided to revisit some of our favorite sites. First was Deadwood, which still has its rustic western look but has been turned into a gambling tourist town. Mt. Moriah Cemetery, (Black Hills Boot Hill), grave sites of Buffalo Bill and Calamity Jane. The plain headstones are gone and Buffalo Bill now has a bronze statute, both sites have iron fences around them. To us the so called improvements have destroyed the serenity and beauty of the site.

Mt. Rushmore, now a huge tourist attraction. About 3 million visitors a year (We were there on a week day and it was very crowded). The once quaint national memorial with parking for 300 hundred cars with a rustic natural viewing arena has been replaced with a huge parking garage and a huge granite viewing arena. However, the sculptures are still amazing and awe inspiring.

The Bad Lands National Park, when we visited 40 years ago, seemed we just about had the park for ourselves. This time it was people everywhere. Even though the park literature says stay on the paths and off the formations, (the formations were formed by erosion and are fairly soft), seems that for too

*(Continued on page 14)*

## TRAVELS OF AQUILA AND PRISCILLA

(Continued from page 13)

many people those rules don't apply. We wonder if this current abuse continues what will be left of our nation's natural treasures for future generations.

The Black Hills, covered with a heavy ponderosa pine forest that from afar makes the hills appear black and the surrounding immense National Grasslands (This is the area used for the filming of, "Dancing With Wolves"), where one can see herds of Bison, pronghorns, mule deer, and of course, colonies of prairie dogs are still a delight to visit.

A new place for us to visit was the Mammoth Site at Hot Springs. This site was discovered in 1974 when a bulldozer operator noticed a tusk in the dirt that he was preparing for a housing project. At one time this was a steep sided sink hole in which animals fell into and were unable to climb out. After they perished their bodies settled to the bottom and became entombed in the silt. Thus far, in addition to finding various types of skeleton remains of various animals they have uncovered large Columbian and Woolly mammoths (61 so far). The bones are very fragile so they are limited to using tools like table spoons, small trowels, dental picks, screwdrivers, and artist brushes as digging tools. We asked our guide how long it takes to dig down a foot. He said it depends on the surface that you are

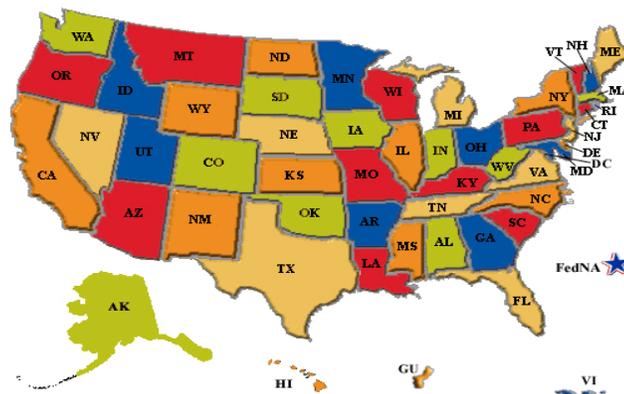
working. In the past six months, on the small area assigned to him, he has gone down about six inches and a fellow intern in the same time only a few millimeters. We believe they'll be digging there a long time since they are less than half way to the bottom of the known sink hole depth.

Continuing east on I-90 we stopped at Mitchell, SD to visit the Corn Palace. This is a fairly large, impressive building with Moorish style towers which is decorated yearly, (different theme each year), with huge murals made from thousands of bushels of corn, grain and native grasses. This is the place for corn lovers. Inside the building there are a number of displays about corn and its usage.

We have come to the end of our tour of our great nation. GOD has truly blessed us with an awesome country and people. Along the way we were reminded as to how great GOD is and how well he has provided our nation with priceless treasures both in beauty and natural resources.

We thank GOD, for enabling us to see his great wonders and providing us with the health and resources to do so.

We hope that you have enjoyed traveling with us and we are looking forward to seeing all of you, GOD willing, sometime early next year. Meanwhile, we pray for a continuing of GOD's blessings for all of us.



## FROM THE TREASURER

As of June 30, 2016:



<u>ACTUAL</u>		<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>OVER/(UNDER)</u>	
INCOME:	5,860	INCOME:	13,894	(8,034)
EXPENSE:	15,171	EXPENSE:	17,244	(2,073)
<b>+/-</b>	<b>-9,311</b>	<b>-3,350</b>		
 <u>YEAR-TO-DATE</u>				
INCOME:	84,748	INCOME:	83,663	1,085
EXPEN	106,384	EXPENSE:	107,856	(1,472)
<b>+/-</b>	<b>-21,636</b>	<b>-24,193</b>		

**PLEASE NOTE:** The financial details listed above and also in the weekly church bulletin do tell a very alarming situation for us, Redeemer Congregation. It is true we need to collect \$4,036.71 each week in our offering plate to meet the demand for operating costs of Redeemer Church. In addition, our buildings and equipment are aging, and as such, require more maintenance than we may be accustomed. These costs are not predictable but are certainly inevitable. If you were to go back the last three months or so, you would note that we have been falling short, way short of meeting these financial demands. As treasurer, it is impossible to write checks for operating costs of the congregation when there are no funds in our checking account to pay them. We are members and associate members of this congregation. We are family. Therefore, it is our responsibility to meet the financial demands in order for the ministry of Redeemer to continue. Please pray and trust in God to move us all to become more responsible to our church's financial needs. Thank you and God bless you. – Denise Fountain, Treasurer





## VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT OF THE MONTH



This month we recognize Wendy Horvath in the Volunteer Spotlight section of our newsletter! Even as the Director of the Child Care, Wendy devotes many volunteers hours to Vacation Bible School. If you have been a volunteer yourself during VBS week or have participated in the last two year's Campfire or Hoedown family events, you would recognize her effort in making our VBS week an extraordinary event for kids, adults, and all families of Redeemer congregation and our Child Care Center. Thank you Wendy for your dedication to another successful VBS!!



## PRAYERS

**SHUT-INS:** Carl & Betty Bertka, Alice Borowski, Susan Jahns, Betty Keller, Helen Perry, and Ruth Sutley.

**HEALING:** Mickie Abel, Wilma Adair, Bob Aldene, Madalen Campbell, Kathy Demma, Sharon Eisele, Pat Finkenbine, Bernice Heppner, Rita Kaufmann, Doug Meyerink, Carolyn Plesner, Tom Poyer, Duwayne Schoeneck, Fred Toth, Bob Varone, Robert Vicky, and Artie Zipp.

**FRIENDS & RELATIVES:** Linny Aspery, The Family & Friends of Paul Badagliacca, Dick and Marilyn Bjornas, The Family & Friends of Joan Bjornas, Bert Blackford, Grace Blum, Michelle Bernard, Bill Bowers, Jr., Dennis Burchell, Georgia Bush, Jack Carlos, Diane Carr, Debbie Carr, Sally Chambers, Esther Clapham, Susan Clapper, Bobbett Clark, Dick Clemens, Joanne and Randy Clymo, Martin Cressman, The Family & Friends of George Robert Cummings, Renee Dempsey, Dale DesJardins, Ed Detrow, Irene DiTommaso, James Dodge, Barb Dumeah, Bruce Everson, Donna Fancher, Darla Finkenbine, Marla Flores, Lou Fountain, Denver Fredett, Manual Galan, Liam Garland, Sandra Gettings, Nancy Gleis, Mary Guilfoyle, Melisa Gustavus, Shelley

Roedel Gutz, Jake Harper, Debbie Harrison, Larry Headun, Claudette Hendershot, Joel Heppner, Walter Heppner, Glory Herget, Joan Hillis, Robin Hincman,

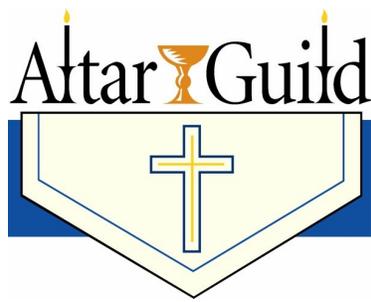
David Hirtle, Larry Hladun, Carol Holmes, Linda Holt, John Hunter, Linda Hunter, Stanley and Lynne Jablonski, Bill Jaquest, Chris Johnson, Heather Johnson, Rachel Kagay, John Kearns, Elizabeth Lynn Klopfenstein, Stacey Lampert, Ray Likowski, John Lockhart, Sean Maki, Joe Manson, Candace McGowan, Jeff Mix, Pete Mogg, John Montondo, Mike Morrissey, Trista Mosier, Charles Pentecost Jr., John Purdy, Mary Raines, Rev. Ronald Rock, Ashley Scudder, Nancy Sly, Denise Bjornas Smith, The Family & Friends of Margaret Snider, Virginia Stanley, Charles Tolley, Samantha Jo Ann Toth, George Vespa, Steven Walker, Christy Wallace, Helen Weishaar, and Gordan Winkel.

**Military Personnel:** Mark Baranowsky, Michael Broughton, Brian Jackson, Joshua Jones, Jonathan Koen, David MacLeod, and



**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!**

***The deadline for the SEPTEMBER Newsletter is AUGUST 23rd  
Please have all your submissions sent to redeemerfl@verizon.net OR drop it off at  
the church office to Deb by the date indicated above.  
Thank You!***



Date	Set-up	Take-down
<b>Sunday, August 7th</b>	TBA	TBA
<b>Sunday, August 14th</b>	TBA	TBA
<b>Sunday, August 21st</b>	TBA	TBA
<b>Sunday, August 28th</b>	TBA	TBA

## TO OUR NORTHERN MEMBERS, GUESTS, & VISITORS:

It is that time of year again when we again say good-bye to our northern brothers and sisters in Christ. We are so very sad to see you leave, but we are overjoyed in the number of weeks and months we shared together worshipping, working, and playing. Please contact the church office notifying us of the date of your departure and verification of your northern address in order that we may continue to correspond through our monthly newsletter and other publications. The Lord grant you safety while you travel.

## PROPERTY APPRECIATION DAY

We sure could use some help on our Property Appreciations Days every month. There is outside work to do and cleaning and dusting that needs done inside the Church. If you can help, please come to the church and we will put you to work. **Our next Property Appreciation Day is August 13th at 8:00 AM.**



## SENIOR FELLOWSHIP

Everyone is invited to the Fellowship every Thursday, starting at 10:00AM. **The more people attending, the more FUN we can have!!!** The most popular things to play are: Pinochle, Phase 10, SkipBO, and Hand & Foot. We also have Dominoes or other games if they are requested. There must be something you would like to have fun with, so come on out. Once in awhile we have a special home made lunch but usually everyone brings a bag lunch. Drinks and dessert furnished.

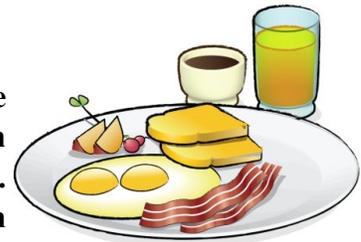
# LIFE LINE SCREENING EVENT

Redeemer Lutheran Church is pleased to offer a preventive health event. Life Line Screening, a leading provider of community-based preventive health screenings, will host their affordable, non-invasive and painless health screenings on **Friday, August 12, 2016**. Five screenings will be offered that scan for potential health problems related to: blocked arteries which is a leading cause of stroke; abdominal aortic aneurysms which can lead to a ruptured aorta; hardening of the arteries in the legs which is a strong predictor of heart disease; atrial fibrillation or irregular heart beat which is closely tied to stroke risk; and a bone density screening, for men and women, used to assess the risk of osteoporosis. Register for a Wellness Package which includes 4 vascular tests and osteoporosis screening from \$149 (\$139 with our member discount). All five screenings take 60-90 minutes to complete. **In order to register for this event and to receive a \$10 discount off any package priced above \$129, please call 1-888-653-6450 or visit [www.lifelinescreening.com/community-partners](http://www.lifelinescreening.com/community-partners).**



## FAMILY BREAKFAST

**August 7th, at 10:30 AM, following Divine Service, we will be holding a Family Breakfast in the Fellowship Hall. Please join us for church and then continued fellowship at breakfast. There is a sign up sheet in the Narthex so we know how much breakfast to prepare. We are asking that you not bring any food, but prayerful consider a monetary donation that will go towards our goal of \$8,200 for the repair and painting of our church building.**



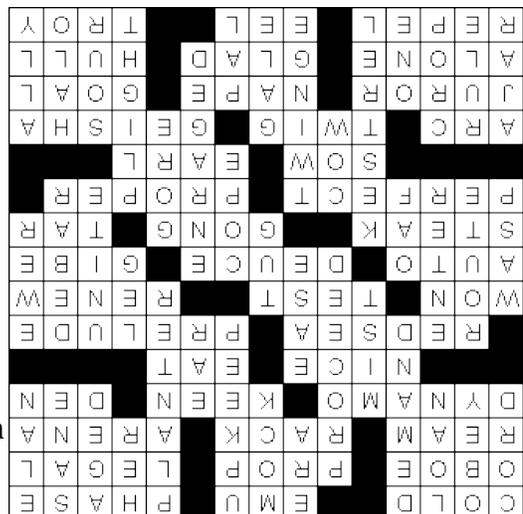
Redeemer Lutheran Church



Web—Church: [www.redeemerfl.com](http://www.redeemerfl.com)



Web—Child Care: [www.redeemerfl-cc.com](http://www.redeemerfl-cc.com)



# VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



**WE BELIEVE . . .** After the craft glue dries and the snacks are just crumbs, the lasting treasure is that children leave VBS knowing their need for Jesus as the REAL Savior.



## VBS HOEDOWN



Vacation Bible School held a Hoedown to celebrate the wonderful week had by all. It was a fantastic gathering! There were pony rides, hay rides, games, and hotdogs and hamburgers (and rainbows)...

2016 VBS was a great success!!

# August

## Redeemer Child Care



### Bible Lessons

Chapel is on Mondays at  
3:45

8/1 Jesus Calls His  
Disciples

*Luke 5:1-11*

8/8 Jesus Calms the  
Storm

*Matthew 8:23-27*

8/15 Hannah Prays for a  
child

*1 Samuel 1:1-20*

8/22 Samuel as a Boy

*1 Samuel 1:21-28;3*

8/29 David Defeats  
Goliath

*1 Samuel 17*



Dear Jesus,  
Thank You for helping  
little people with big  
problems. Amen

*submitted by Wendy Horvath*

### Birthdays

Aycen 8/6

Tucker 8/7

Bryant 8/8

Peyton 8/10

Sophia 8/11

Kacen 8/13

Brandon C. 8/16

Carson 8/17

Ms. Carissa 8/17

Mr. Mark 8/18

Mitchell 8/20

Rylie 8/23



### Big Thank You!

Thank you Ms. Jadilyn  
for 2 1/2 years of  
Service. Thank you for  
being an awesome  
Teacher. We are going  
to miss you. Best of luck  
in New Jersey!

### What We Are Learning



This month's units are  
"All About Me",  
"Water" & "Rest &  
Recreation"

### Special Days in August

8/10 Redeemer  
Kindergarten Starts

8/10 Public School  
Starts

Congratulations on  
your years of  
service!



Ms. Wendy 14 Years

## CLASSIFIEDS

- Lawn Care** Call Todd Armstrong at (941)961-7584 for your lawn care needs.
- Cleaning Services** CK-Clean LLC—Residential cleaning service—Kristine Bowers Baltimore (941) 681-6514
- Pet Sitting Services** Do you need someone to watch your four legged babies? Call Michelle Kalstrup, CVT. 941-705-1726 Certified Vet Tech. Email: pawfectsouls@yahoo.com www.pawfectsoulspetting.com

## LOST AND FOUND

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

### ELDER & COMMUNION ASSISTANT SCHEDULE

DATE	ELDER	COMMUNION ASSISTANT
August 7th	Mike Nagel	Dennis Replinger
August 14th	Collins Sita	Dave Giroux
August 21st	Stephen Wurster	Mark Horvath
August 28th	Paul Brown	Bob Varone

### GREETERS

<i>August 7th</i>	<i>Sally Zierdt</i>
<i>August 14th</i>	<i>TBA</i>
<i>August 21st</i>	<i>TBA</i>
<i>August 28th</i>	<i>TBA</i>

*Submitted by  
Assimilation*



### COFFEE HOUR

<i>August 7th</i>	<i>FAMILY BREAKFAST</i>
<i>August 14th</i>	<i>TBA</i>
<i>August 21st</i>	<i>TBA</i>
<i>August 28th</i>	<i>TBA</i>

*Submitted by Brd. of  
Community &  
Parish Fellowship*



## PUZZLE PAGE

**Across**

- 1. Common infection
- 5. Flightless Australian bird
- 8. Stage
- 13. Musical instrument
- 14. Support
- 15. Lawful
- 16. Quantity of paper
- 17. Newspaper display
- 18. Stadium
- 19. Generator
- 21. Acute
- 23. Lair
- 24. Pleasant
- 26. Consume
- 27. Part of the Indian Ocean
- 29. Preliminary piece of music
- 34. Was victorious
- 35. Exam
- 37. Regenerate
- 38. Car
- 40. Two
- 43. Barb
- 44. Cut of meat
- 46. Percussion instrument
- 48. Mariner
- 49. Consummate
- 52. Suitable
- 54. Female pig
- 55. British peer
- 56. Part of a circle
- 59. Small branch
- 61. Female Japanese entertainer
- 65. Court panelist
- 67. Part of the neck
- 69. Target
- 70. Solitary
- 71. Cheerful and bright
- 72. Part of a ship
- 73. Repulse
- 74. Snakelike fish
- 75. Helen of \_\_\_\_

1	2	3	4			5	6	7		8	9	10	11	12
13					14					15				
16					17					18				
19				20			21		22			23		
			24			25		26						
	27	28						29			30	31	32	33
34				35			36		37					
38			39		40			41	42		43			
44				45			46			47		48		
49					50	51		52			53			
					54			55						
56	57	58		59			60		61			62	63	64
65			66			67		68			69			
70						71					72			
73						74					75			

**Down**

- 1. Lanyard
- 2. Comply
- 3. Money borrowed
- 4. Peremptory request
- 5. Epoch
- 6. Treat with contempt
- 7. Maintenance
- 8. Decorative pot
- 9. Belonging to a female
- 10. Matured
- 11. Reasonable
- 12. Zeal
- 14. Go forward
- 20. Thin fog
- 22. Listening device
- 25. Relieve
- 27. Road
- 28. Go in
- 30. Section of a journey
- 31. Combine
- 32. Suspend
- 33. Pitcher
- 34. Insect
- 36. Pull
- 39. Lout
- 41. Manage
- 42. Infuriated
- 45. Falcon
- 47. Bloodshed
- 50. Female animal
- 51. Sudden sharp pain
- 53. Predicament
- 56. Slightly open
- 57. Reign
- 58. Harvest
- 60. Strong wind
- 62. Rancid
- 63. Aura
- 64. Friendly nation
- 66. Single item
- 68. Buddy

***Solution on Page 20***

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**REV. JAMES T. KRESS, SR.**

**Church Phone: 941-475-2410**  
Church Fax: 941-475-9726  
**School/Child Care Phone:**  
**941-475-2631**

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:

Bible Study: 8:00 AM  
Divine Service: 9:15 AM  
Sunday School: 9:15 AM

CHURCH OFFICE PHONE: 941-475-2410

*The Redeemer Lutheran Church & School Family are called into the service of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ by His command (Matthew 28:18-20) to:*

- Disciple all nations, that is, all people;*
- Baptize in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit;*
- Proclaim the Gospel and teach His Word in its truth and purity.*