

“CAN A CHRISTIAN REMAIN A CHRISTIAN WHEN TALKING ABOUT POLITICAL ISSUES?”



Well the time is almost upon us once again when registered voters will cast their ballot for the next president of the United States of America. And before Election Day rolls around (November 8th), many will offer their opinions of why they will vote for one candidate over the other. To be sure, this is a rather strong topic that I would rather not address, but I feel the need to do so in this month’s newsletter because of the already sharp language tossed about between both campaigns. Let’s face it, as registered voters we have not done a very good job is supplying a qualified candidate for either party.

Please bear with me and remember, as your pastor I would like to remain outwardly unbiased, to the best of my ability, as far as the character of each of the candidates is concerned. I have my own opinions, but it is not my place to tell you to vote for one candidate and not the other. However, there is one question that I would like for you to ask yourself: “Can I remain a Christian when speaking about

political issues?” In this article, I will do my best to remain neutral and unbiased in my answer to this question.

Scripturally speaking, this is what God’s Word says: “Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear” (Ephesians 4:28).

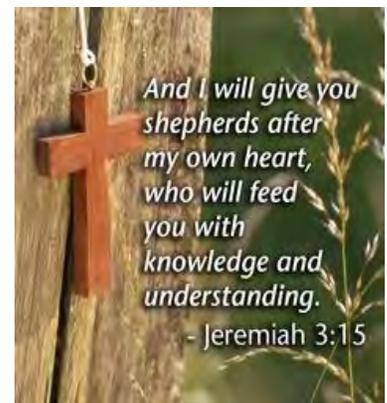
And let us not forget God command: “You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor” (Exodus 20:16). We have been taught in the Small Catechism what the 8th Commandment means: “We should fear and love God so that we do not tell lies about our neighbor, betray him, slander him, or hurt his reputation, but defend him, speak well of him, and explain everything in the kindest way” (Luther’s Small Catechism). Do you know that political candidates are our neighbors?

When it comes to mankind, God shows no partiality (Romans 2:11). He judges all

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STEWARDSHIP

Christ died for our sins, was buried, and rose again. If you believe this gospel, if you stand upon it, and cling to it, you are saved. Trust in this is the dividing line. It defines, either positively or negatively, all men. It separates and divides Cain from Abel, Job from his so-called friends, Abraham from Abimelech, Isaac from Ishmael, Jacob from Esau, David from Saul, Daniel from Belshazzar, Joseph from Herod, Lazarus from the rich man, and the tax collector from the Pharisee. What defines men is not whether they are good or bad, but whether or not they believe in Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins.

The problem with man is his heart. Our hearts are fallen and predisposed to think that we can impress God. We think that if we do all the right things God will reward us, and we will escape evil. We think that God will be impressed with our gifts, that our prosperity and goodness is evidence that God loves us or that it should motivate God to love us.

But we know better because God has blessed us with the faith of Abel, Job, and Abraham. We know that God's grace in Christ saves us, not our works.

We know that God is not impressed with our giving. He is not impressed when we give him that which is already his. God doesn't benefit from our giving and He doesn't need it. But our neighbor does need it. And God delights in us growing more and more like Him. He blesses us, and He invites us to bless one another with our giving: so that the Gospel may be proclaimed, so that the poor may be fed, so that all God's work through the Church may be done.

So consider God's priorities in comparison to your own. And be honest. Reevaluate where you are and where God has called you to be. Look into your own bank statement. Would any accountant think that the Church was your priority? He would see a spreadsheet filled with where your money actually goes: into house and clothing and cars, into eating out and beauty supplies and entertainment. Indeed, much of it wasted on frivolous things. But would he find great percentages going to the church? Figure up the percentage. Put it in relation to the proportion of your income. What percentage of your income do you give for the mission of the church: the preaching and teaching, the baptizing and communing, the help for the weak and poor brothers of Christ? Is it even enough for a deduction when you file your income taxes? The widow gave all she had and thought nothing of it. She was glad to do it. The rich man gave what to him was meaningless, trifle amount and desired a plaque in his honor. Why is it that the less we give the prouder we are and the more credit we expect?

All your works, even your monetary gifts, done in faith please God now for Christ's sake. No matter how great or small, frequent or infrequent. They are all washed and cleansed by grace through faith on account of Christ. Whatever you do from faith in God pleases him for the sake of the Son. So reevaluate your generosity in the light of the grace of Christ. Freely you have received, freely give.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Well it's fall and we are already beginning to welcome some of our Associate members back from the North. It is always good to again meet in fellowship with our seasonal members. Welcome Back!!

As you may have heard, our Treasurer Denise Fountain and our Vice President Terry Fountain are in the process of moving and have resigned their respective positions. Both Terry and Denise have gone far beyond what was expected of them and they will be sincerely missed. Denise has graciously agreed to continue doing our financial reports and paying the bills until a replacement can be found. With that said, please prayerfully consider either of these now open positions. The Lord will provide.

October is Pastor Appreciation Month, a special time that congregations set aside each year to honor their pastors and pastoral families for the hard work, sacrificial dedication and multiple blessings provided by these special people.

I feel like we should stand up and cheer "HOORAY" because we have the greatest pastor around! He truly loves his calling and he faithfully loves his congregation. He has an all-consuming job and he is very passionate about bringing the Word of God to us. Not only does Pastor Kress show love and care for us with his messages on Sunday, but he is "on-call" 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. He visits his parishioners at home, in the hospital or where ever he is needed.

Pastor Kress is doing so much to encourage the flock, wouldn't it be nice if the flock returned the favor? God has entrusted to him one of the most precious of assignments – our spiritual well-being. As teacher, counselor, comforter and one who continues to unselfishly serve this congregation, Pastor Kress could use that extra pat on the back. So go ahead and find your special way to say thanks. You'll be glad you did.

SERVING THE LORD

Pastor	Rev. James Kress
Seasonal Pastor	
<u>LHM Ambassador</u>	
Child Care Director	Wendy Horvath
Office Secretary	
Organist	Bill Bowers
Choir Director	Collins Sita
Newsletter Editor	
<u>OFFICERS</u>	
President	Stephen Wurster
Vice President	
Treasurer	Denise Fountain
Secretary	June Brown
<u>BOARDS</u>	
Head Elder	Collins Sita
Christian Ed.	
Human Care	
Outreach	Cindy Johnson
Assimilation	
School Board	Bill Bowers
Stewardship	Rev. Mark Steinke
Youth	
Financial Secretary	Pam Replinger
Property Mgmt.	Jim Metzger
<u>GROUPS/GUILDS</u>	
Ladies Guild	Sally Zierdt
Men's Group	
Altar Guild	
Coffee Hour	



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by the Law and always saves people by the Gospel. He calls sin evil and love good. So, knowing what God's Word says about our speaking to or about others, including political candidates, let us look at answering the question posed above from another angle. Let us look at answering the question as members of one holy Christian and Apostolic Church.

Within the Lutheran Church, we firmly hold to the scriptural idea of two kingdoms: an earthly kingdom, and a heavenly kingdom. Jesus says it so profoundly, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me" (Matthew 28:18). To be sure, God is king and ruler of both heaven and earth, but He operates in different ways to rule each of these two kingdoms.

Of the two, the easiest to understand is God's heavenly kingdom. God rules His Church by and through the means of His Holy Word and His blessed Sacraments. His work in this kingdom is to create faith in Christians through the means of Grace, i.e., Baptism, the Lord's Supper, and His Word. Thus the Church falls under this kingdom (His kingdom), and within the Church, we are to be subject to nothing else but God and His Word. Jesus builds up, maintains, and governs His Church exclusively through His Word and the Sacraments. By these means, God's people are taught the faith, and learn to be devout and faithful people. It is important to note that this kingdom deals with spiritual matters only, not worldly.

The other of the two kingdoms is God's earthly kingdom. God rules in this earthly kingdom as well by means of secular government and rulers. Jesus shapes and preserves this kingdom

(which is still His), through ordinances of civil government. The Apostle Paul says, "Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval, for he is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God's wrath on the wrongdoer" (Romans 13:1-4).

God has allowed the rulers that exist today to rule only by His own will and authority. He gives governments and rulers the power of the sword, that is, to rule with force and power. Their only duty is to maintain peace and justice in our earthly world (God's earthly kingdom), as it relates to life, liberty, and property on earth. They are not to be involved in spiritual matters.

So in the earthly kingdom, God allows earthly rulers to protect and defend their people. In other words, the Prime Minister of England rules under God's allowance. In the same way, the President of Iran rules that country under God's allowance, even as he does it without true faith in the Triune God. God allows all leaders of the world to rule and protect their people and to provide for their earthly needs, but not their spiritual needs.

In terms of the earthly kingdom, the matter of one candidate's faith shouldn't be the sole issue. In Holy Scripture we have examples like Cyrus, king of Persia and Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon. They were faithless kings that God, yes, that God appointed to rule for a time. And let us not forget the words our Lord Jesus

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said to Pilate before He was sentenced to crucifixion, “You would have no authority over Me at all unless it had been given you from above” (John 19:11a). Similarly, in our own world, if the ruler is a Turk or a Jew or a Hindi, they would all rule only because the one true Trinitarian God has allowed them to be in that position. Whoever rules is allowed to be in that position by God’s good and gracious will. God then works through the things that ruler does, for good or for ill, to protect and care for the people of the earth in terms of worldly goods.

So when you go to the ballot booth this November (or at any election for that matter), don’t base your vote solely on the reported “religion” of the person running for a particular office. Rather vote for the person you believe will do the better job caring for your earthly needs; who will give you more opportunities; who will allow you to get a better job; who will protect you militarily; who will protect the rights of those who are unable to protect themselves, such as the unborn and aged; who will do their duty to maintain peace and justice, etc.

In the secular earthly kingdom, which belongs to God, faith is not the chief measure. Luther himself wrote, “God made the secular government subordinate and subject to reason . . . therefore the heathen can speak and teach about this very well, as they have done. And to tell the truth, they are far more skillful in such matters than the Christians; Christ Himself says (Luke 16:8) that the children of this world are wiser than the children of light. Saint Paul also says (1 Cor. 1:26f.) that not many wise, noble, or strong are called, but that God has chosen what is foolish, weak, and despised. Every day we find out how swift, tricky, clever, smart, and quick the children of the world are in contrast to us devout, stupid, good simple wethers and sheep. . . . [God] casts great intelligence, wisdom, languages, and oratorical ability among

them, too, so that His dear Christians look like mere children, fools, and beggars by comparison . . . I am convinced that God gave and preserved such heathen books as those of the poets and the histories, like Homer, Vergil, Demosthenes, Cicero, Livy, and afterwards the fine old jurists . . . so that the heathen and godless might have their prophets, apostles, and theologians or preachers for the secular government.” (Luther’s Works 13:198-199; Commentary on Psalm 101). In summary, we must do our best to keep religion out of politics, and politics out of religion, and trust that God will do His work no matter who is in charge.

Here’s the bottom line: go and vote, but remember to vote your conscience, not religion. If you believe Hillary Clinton will do a better job than Donald Trump based on secular credentials, by all means vote for her. If you believe Donald Trump will do a better job than Hillary Clinton based on secular credentials, by all means vote for him. But as a good Missouri Synod Lutheran, please do not vote for someone only based upon their religious faith. For even if a non-Christian is the earthly ruler, they are there because the One, Eternal, Heavenly, King, and Ruler, God Almighty has consented that they be there for a time. He will work through their rule to bring about His will.

So, when we find ourselves tempted to participate in speaking to political issues, remember these words from Paul, “For the kingdom of God does not consist in talk but in power. What do you wish? Shall I come to you with a rod, or with love in a spirit of gentleness?” (1 Corinthians 4:20-21). Understood correctly, the power Paul is talking about is not to be found in earthly things; rather the power is revealed in the cross, the instrument of God’s salvation. This is especially seen when he says, “For the word of the cross is folly to those who are

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perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God” (1 Corinthians 1:18).

I realize I didn't solve anything here politically, nor did I really believe that I could. My hope and prayer in writing this newsletter article was to attempt to have you focus on the things that are really important ... like loving your neighbor as yourself and focusing on the

things that matter eternally. “For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, ‘The righteous shall live by faith’” (Romans 1:16-17).

Yours in the Service of Jesus,
Pastor Kress

FAREWELL AND GODSPEED



Redeemer Lutheran Church has been blessed to have such a loyal, trustworthy, dedicated, and cheerful church secretary. For the last three years, Debbie has served well in our church office. Her skill and cheerfulness will be missed tremendously. As a member of Redeemer congregation, she also volunteered on countless occasions, helping and assisting others, especially where there was no available to do the work. Certainly we are happy for Debbie and her husband, Roy who were gathered in holy marriage on Sept. 24th. Unfortunately, Debbie & Roy have made plans to make their permanent residence in North Carolina. Farewell and Godspeed our dear sister in Christ. The Lord grant both you and Roy many years of life together as husband and wife. The Lord also grant you with many opportunities to visit your Redeemer friends and family in the future. We love and will miss you. You are the best.

FROM THE TREASURER



As of August 31, 2016:

<u>ACTUAL</u>		<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>OVER/(UNDER)</u>	
INCOME:	15,274	INCOME:	13,511	1,763
EXPENSE:	14,178	EXPENSE:	17,268	(3,090)
+/-	+1,096	-3,757		
 <u>YEAR-TO-DATE</u>				
INCOME:	110,526	INCOME:	112,484	(1,958)
EXPENSE:	136,771	EXPENSE:	140,704	(3,933)
+/-	-26,245	-28,220		

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



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.

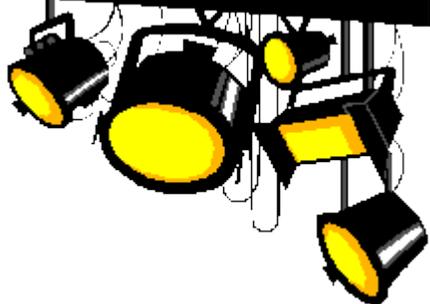


SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT: The primary duties would be to coordinate the schedules for Sunday School teachers, prepare the materials & make sure they are available, review attendance and work with parents to encourage attendance and see if rides are needed (not to necessarily provide the rides, but 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 (2nd 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 (2nd Monday at 7 PM), and prepare a brief report of the board's work to the Council and to the Voters' Assembly each quarter.





VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT OF THE MONTH



Many of you have come to know Michael Nagel as Olga's son. However, Mike has increasingly made himself available to serve his Lord Jesus at Redeemer. Therefore, it is with much appreciation that we shine the volunteer spotlight on Mike this month. Mike and his wife, Colette have been members at Redeemer for almost a year and a half. Mike has willingly and joyfully served as usher, Communion assistant, record worship services, greet, assist on Property Appreciation Days, assist with monthly counting, and he even made communion bread. Earlier this year, Mike was elected Elder. A position Pastor Kress believes Mike will serve very well. Mike has made visits to shut-ins and checks in on some of our other elderly members too. His greatest joy, of course, is caring for his mom, Olga. Mike has become a valiant volunteer. A wonderful example to us all. We are truly blessed that God has brought both Mike and Colette to Redeemer. Oh, by the way, Mike? Can you do us a favor ...



9 OCTOBER 2016

Redeemer Lutheran Church & School

PRAYERS



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

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

FRIENDS & RELATIVES: Linny Aspery, Dick and Marilyn Bjornas, Bert Blackford, Grace Blum, Michelle Bernard, Bill Bowers, Jr., Dennis Burchell, Georgia Bush, Jack Carlos, Diane Carr, Debbie Carr, Sally Chambers, Esther Clapham, Bobbett Clark, Dick Clemens, Joanne and Randy Clymo, Martin Cressman, Renee Dempsey, Dale DesJardins, Ed Detrow, Irene DiTommaso, James Dodge, Barb Dumeah, Bruce Everson, Donna Fancher, Darla Finkenbine, Marla Flores, Lou Fountain, Tanner Francis, 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, Sally Rodgers, Ashley Scudder, Nancy Sly, Denise Bjornas Smith, Virginia Stanley, Charles Tolley, Samantha Jo Ann Toth, George Vespa, Steven Walker, Christy Wallace, Helen Weishaar, and Gordan Winkel.

Military Personnel: Mark Baranowsky, Brian Jackson, Joshua Jones, Jonathan Koen, David MacLeod, and Charles D. Weishaar.

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



Date	Set-up	Take-down
Sunday, Oct 2nd	Lisa Kress	Jane Harty
Sunday, Oct 9th	Gretchen Armstrong	Vicki Fernald
Sunday, Oct 16th	Bob Varone	Carolyn Francis
Sunday, Oct 23rd	Gwen Wurster	Jane Harty
Sunday, Oct 31st	Vicki Fernald	Lisa Kress

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 October 15th 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.

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS: The current Bible Class focuses on the Lutheran Service Book. We will look at the beauty of Lutheran Hymnody and learn, yes learn of the benefits in singing what we believe, teach and confess as Lutherans. We will not only learn to sing the hymns, but also understand the biblical theology behind the words we sing as well as why we sing them. Martin Luther was quoted as saying, “Next to the Word of God, the noble art of music is the greatest treasure in the world.” You need not have the voice of an angel to attend, only the curiosity to learn. So, come join us on **Sunday mornings at 8:00 AM**. We will meet in the church sanctuary to learn of the treasury of our hymnbook.

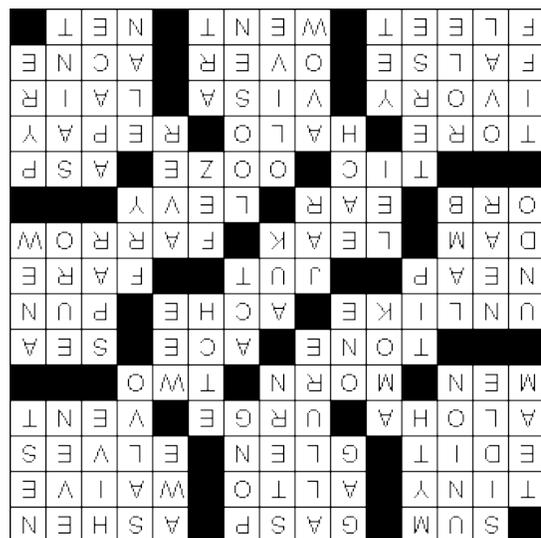


CHURCH EMAIL ADDRESS CHANGING

Changes, they are a coming...in an effort to streamline and cut down on expenses, the Church Office, Child Care, Treasurer, and Pastor are going to be using gmail for receiving emails. These email addresses go directly to the person to whom you are sending information. They are viewed only by the recipient. The following are the new addresses:

- Pastor: redeempastor1@gmail.com**
- Church secretary: redeemerfl@gmail.com**
- Church treasurer: redeemertreasurer1@gmail.com**
- Child Care: redeemerchildcare@gmail.com**

Please start using these email accounts for all future email correspondences.



Redeemer Lutheran Church



Web—Church: www.redeemerfl.com



Web—Child Care: www.redeemerfl-cc.com

REFORMATION TRIVIA

Match the items in the left hand column with the correct letter in the right hand column

- | | | |
|-----------|---|------------------------------|
| 1. _____ | <i>Luther's superior, confessor, and friend</i> | A. <i>Philip Melancthon</i> |
| 2. _____ | <i>Date Heidelberg Disputation began</i> | B. <i>Lucas Cranach</i> |
| 3. _____ | <i>Who 'coined' this phrase: "Once the coin into the coffer clings, a soul from purgatory springs?"</i> | C. <i>Erfurt</i> |
| 4. _____ | <i>Luther's lifelong ally, friend, and spiritual heir</i> | D. <i>Martin Luther</i> |
| 5. _____ | <i>Document declaring Luther an outlaw</i> | E. <i>December 13, 1545</i> |
| 6. _____ | <i>Debated with Luther over the human will</i> | F. <i>The Edict of Worms</i> |
| 7. _____ | <i>Hated the 'righteousness of God'</i> | G. <i>John the Steadfast</i> |
| 8. _____ | <i>Date the Council of Trent began</i> | H. <i>Eisleben</i> |
| 9. _____ | <i>Luther's 'Patmos'</i> | I. <i>Desiderius Erasmus</i> |
| 10. _____ | <i>Martin Luther's Birthday</i> | J. <i>Charles V</i> |
| 11. _____ | <i>A Wittenberg artist</i> | K. <i>February 18, 1546</i> |
| 12. _____ | <i>Date of Luther's death</i> | L. <i>Johann Tetzel</i> |
| 13. _____ | <i>Refused to hand Luther over to Rome</i> | M. <i>Andreas Carlstadt</i> |
| 14. _____ | <i>Excommunicated Luther</i> | N. <i>John Eck</i> |
| 15. _____ | <i>Town Luther was born</i> | O. <i>April 25, 1518</i> |
| 16. _____ | <i>Invented the printing press</i> | P. <i>Junker Jorg</i> |
| 17. _____ | <i>University where Luther studied</i> | Q. <i>Georg Spalatin</i> |
| 18. _____ | <i>Cloister name Luther entered</i> | R. <i>October 31, 1517</i> |
| 19. _____ | <i>Debated Luther</i> | S. <i>Johann Staupitz</i> |
| 20. _____ | <i>Nailing of the 95 Theses</i> | T. <i>Wartburg</i> |
| 21. _____ | <i>A colleague at the University of Wittenberg</i> | U. <i>Frederick the Wise</i> |
| 22. _____ | <i>Met with Luther in Augsburg</i> | V. <i>November 10, 1483</i> |
| 23. _____ | <i>Secretary of Elector Frederick the Wise</i> | W. <i>Cardinal Cajetan</i> |
| 24. _____ | <i>Luther's alias (picture below)</i> | X. <i>Augustinian Order</i> |
| 25. _____ | <i>Grandson of Emperor of Maximilian I</i> | Y. <i>Pope Leo X</i> |
| 26. _____ | <i>Succeeded Frederick the Wise</i> | Z. <i>Johannes Gutenberg</i> |



Knight George



Luther's Rose

WHO WAS MARTIN LUTHER

Martin Luther was born on November 10, 1483, in Eisleben, Saxony, in modern southeast Germany. His parents, Hans and Margarete Luther, were of peasant lineage, but Hans had some success as a miner and ore smelter. In 1484, the family moved to nearby Mansfeld, where Hans held ore deposits.

Hans Luther knew that mining was a tough business and wanted his promising son to have better and become a lawyer. At age seven, Martin Luther entered school in Mansfeld. At 14, he went to north to Magdeburg, where he continued his studies. In 1498, he returned to Eisleben and enrolled in a school, studying grammar, rhetoric and logic. He later compared this experience to purgatory and hell.

In 1501, Martin Luther entered the University of Erfurt, where he received a Master of Arts degree (in grammar, logic, rhetoric and metaphysics). At this time, it seemed he was on his way to becoming a lawyer. However, in July 1505, Luther had a life-changing experience that set him on a new course. Caught in a horrific thunderstorm where he feared for his life, Luther cried out to St. Anne, the patron saint of miners, "Save me, St. Anne, and I'll become a monk!" The storm subsided and he was saved. Most historians believe this was not a spontaneous act, but an idea already formulated in Luther's mind. The decision to become a monk was difficult and greatly disappointed his father, but he felt he must keep a promise. Luther was also driven by fears of hell and God's wrath, and felt that life in a monastery would help him find salvation.

The first few years of monastery life were difficult for Martin Luther, as he did not find the religious enlightenment he was seeking. A mentor told him to focus his life exclusively

on Christ and this would later provide him with the guidance he sought. At age 27, he was given the opportunity to be a delegate to a church conference in Rome. He came away more disillusioned, and very discouraged by the immorality and corruption he witnessed there among the Catholic priests. Upon his return to Germany, he enrolled in the University of Wittenberg in an attempt to suppress his spiritual turmoil. He excelled in his studies and received a doctorate, becoming a professor of theology at the university.

Through his studies of scripture, Martin Luther finally gained religious enlightenment. Beginning in 1513, while preparing lectures, Luther read Psalm 22, which recounts Christ's cry for mercy on the cross, a cry similar to his own disillusionment with God and religion. Two years later, while preparing a lecture on Paul's Epistle to the Romans, he read, "The just will live by faith." He dwelled on this statement for some time. Finally, he realized the key to spiritual salvation was not to fear God or be enslaved by religious dogma but to believe that faith alone would bring salvation. This period marked a major change in his life and set in motion the Reformation.

In 1517, Pope Leo X announced a new round of indulgences to help build St. Peter's Basilica. On October 31, 1517, an angry Martin Luther nailed a sheet of paper with 95 theses on the university's chapel door. Though he intended these to be discussion points, the Ninety-Five Theses laid out a devastating critique of the indulgences as corrupting people's faith. Luther also sent a copy to Archbishop Albert Albrecht of Mainz, calling on him to end the sale of indulgences. Aided by the printing press, copies of the Ninety-Five

(Continued on page 15)

WHO WAS MARTIN LUTHER

(Continued from page 14)

Theses spread throughout Germany within two weeks and throughout Europe within two months.

The Church eventually moved to stop the act of defiance. In October 1518, at a meeting with Cardinal Thomas Cajetan in Augsburg, Martin Luther was ordered to recant his Ninety-Five Theses by the authority of the pope. Luther said he would not recant unless scripture proved him wrong. He went further, stating that he didn't consider the papacy had the authority to interpret scripture. The meeting ended in a shouting match and initiated his ultimate excommunication from the Church.

Throughout 1519, Martin Luther continued to lecture and write in Wittenberg. In June and July of that year he publicly declared that the Bible did not give the pope the exclusive right to interpret scripture, which was a direct attack on the authority of the papacy. Finally, in 1520, the pope had had enough and on June 15 issued an ultimatum threatening Luther with excommunication. On December 10, 1520, Luther publicly burned the letter.

In January 1521, Martin Luther was officially excommunicated from the Roman Catholic Church. In March, he was summoned before the Diet of Worms, a general assembly of secular authorities. Again, Luther refused to recant his statements, demanding he be shown any scripture that would refute his position. There was none. On May 8, 1521, the council released the Edict of Worms, banning Luther's writings and declaring him a "convicted heretic." This made him a condemned and wanted man. Friends helped him hide out at the Wartburg Castle. While in seclusion, he translated the New Testament into the German

language, to give ordinary people the opportunity to read God's word.

Though still under threat of arrest, Martin Luther returned to Wittenberg Castle Church, in Eisenach, in May 1522. Miraculously, he was able to avoid capture and began organizing a new church, Lutheranism. He gained many followers and got support from German princes. When a peasant revolt began in 1524, Luther denounced the peasants and sided with the rulers, whom he depended on to keep his church growing. Thousands of peasants were killed, but Luther's church grew over the years. In 1525, he married Katharina von Bora, a former nun who had abandoned the convent and taken refuge in Wittenberg. Together, over the next several years, they had six children.

From 1533 to his death in 1546, Martin Luther served as the dean of theology at University of Wittenberg. During this time he suffered from many illnesses, including arthritis, heart problems and digestive disorders, and the physical pain and emotional strain of being a fugitive might have been reflected in his writings. Some works contained strident and offensive language against several segments of society, particularly Jews and Muslims. During a trip to his hometown of Eisleben, he died on February 18, 1546, at age 62.

Martin Luther is one of the most influential and controversial figures in the Reformation movement. His actions fractured the Roman Catholic Church into new sects of Christianity and set in motion reform within the Church. A prominent theologian, his desire for people to feel closer to God led him to translate the Bible into the language of the people, radically changing the relationship between church leaders and their followers.

JOB WELL DONE

THE CHURCH PAINT PROJECT IS COMPLETED!



Many, many thanks to you, members of Redeemer Lutheran Church, after reaching our paint project goal of \$8,200 through door offerings, Family Breakfast, and anonymous donors, our project is completed.

Praise be to God!!!

Many thanks also needs to be extended to Jim Metzker our Board of Church Property Chair. Without his leadership, we would still be starrng at each other waiting to see who would pick up the paintbrush first. Thanks Jim!



Come to our Voters' Meeting on Sunday, October 16th following Divine Service to hear about our next project.



OCTOBER

Redeemer Child Care

Bible Lessons

Children's Chapel is on
Mondays at 3:45 PM

10/3 Joseph's Father
and Brothers

Genesis 37:1-11

10/10 Moses' Birth

Exodus 2:1-10

10/17 Crossing the Red
Sea

Exodus 14

10/24 The Twelve Spies'
Report

Numbers 13:1-14:38

10/31 The Tabernacle is
Built

Exodus 35-36



Thank You God, for
keeping Your promises. I
know You will bless me. I
know You know what is
best for me. Amen.

Submitted by Wendy Horvath

Birthdays

10/2 Chloe D.

10/2 Hudson

10/3 Kayden

10/4 Adrian

10/7 Abigail

10/8 Therin

10/8 Elsie

10/14 Ms. Brittney

10/16 Kolton

10/17 Jayden B.

10/18 Ella

10/19 Mackenzie

10/22 Jonathan T

10/31 Brooklyn A.



Congratulations on
your years of
service!



Mr. Mark 1 year

Ms. Lisa 1 year

Ms. Brittney 2 years

What We Are

Learning

Two's, Three's & Four's -
Learning about Family
Ones - All About Me
VPK - Community



Special Days in October

10/9-10/15 Fire Safety
Week

10/10 Columbus Day

10/12 Take your Teddy
Bear to School Day



10/14 Fire Dept. is
Coming

10/16 Bosses Day

10/31 Halloween - Join
us for a Parade at 10:00
am Children will have
pizza for lunch & party
snacks.

CLASSIFIEDS

- Lawn Care Services** Call Todd Armstrong at (941)961-7584 for your lawn care needs.
- Real Estate Services** Call Bill Bowers at (941) 416-5661 for real estate assistance.
- Cleaning Services** Call Kristine Baltimore at (941) 681-6514 for residential cleaning.
- Pet Sitting Services** Do you need someone to watch your four legged friend?
Call Michelle Kalstrup, Certified Vet Tech (CVT) at 941-705-1726
or email her at: pawfectsouls@yahoo.com or visit her at
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
Oct 2nd	Mike Nagel	Bob Varone
Oct 9th	Paul Brown	no communion
Oct 16th	Stephen Wurster	Dennis Replinger
Oct 23rd	Paul Brown	Dave Giroux
Oct 31st	Mike Nagel	Mark Horvath

GREETERS

- October 2nd*
- October 9th* *Sally Zierdt*
- October 16th* *TBA*
- October 23rd* *TBA*
- October 31st* *TBA*

Submitted by Board of Assimilation



COFFEE HOUR

- October 2nd* *Family Breakfast*
- October 9th* *Neva Aldene*
- October 16th* *TBA*
- October 23rd* *TBA*
- October 31st* *TBA*

Submitted by Board of Community & Parish Fellowship



PUZZLE PAGE

Across

1. Final aggregate
4. Short intake of breath
8. Livid
13. Diminutive
14. Singing voice
15. Relinquish
16. Redact
17. Scottish valley
18. Fairies
19. Hawaiian greeting
21. Impulse
23. Part of a volcano
24. Males
25. Before noon
27. Deuce
29. Musical interval
30. Part of a deck
31. Body of water
34. Dissimilar
37. Dull pain
38. Play on words
39. Tide
40. Protrude
41. Transportation charge
42. Water barrier
43. Escaping fluid
45. Litter of pigs
47. Globe
48. Sense organ
49. Charge
50. Twitch
51. Exude
52. Small snake
55. Ripped
58. Aura
60. Reimburse
62. Tusk
64. Travel endorsement
66. Den
67. Fictitious
68. Finished
69. Skin condition
70. Swift
71. Changed location
72. Mesh

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70						71					72			

Down

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Move sideways 2. Political unit 3. Traditional story 4. Joke 5. The power to attract 6. Rear part of a ship 7. Classic computer game 8. Wonderment 9. Fusillade 10. Teeming multitude 11. Level 12. Bird shelter 13. Squad 20. Berserk 22. Aquatint | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 26. Single 28. Very small (Scottish) 29. Gratuity 30. Perform 31. Box 32. Currency 33. Afresh 34. Reverse an action 35. Approach 36. Young animal 37. Seabird 40. Container 41. Cook 43. Hawaiian garland 44. Every one | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 45. Felt cap 46. Affirm 49. Relax 50. Laconic 51. Mediterranean fruit 52. Rapidly 53. Holy person 54. Funeral fire 55. Petty quarrel 56. Elliptical 57. Theatrical part 59. Declare solemnly 61. Zeal 63. So far 65. Prowess |
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Solution on Page 11

REDEEMER LUTHERAN
CHURCH & SCHOOL
6970 Mineola Rd.
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ADDRESS SERVICE
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PERMIT 774



REDEEMER LUTHERAN
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6465 Mayport Street
Englewood, FL 34224

REV. JAMES T. KRESS, SR.
Pastor

Church Phone: 941-475-2410
Church Fax: 941-475-9726
School/Child Care Phone:
941-475-2631
email: redeemerfl@gmail.com

REDEEMER REPORTER

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WORSHIP SERVICES:

Bible Class: 8:00 AM
Divine Service: 9:15 AM
Sunday School: 10:45 AM

CHURCH OFFICE PHONE: 941-475-2410

The Redeemer Lutheran Church, School & Child Care 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; and*
- Never be ashamed of the Gospel—it is the power of God unto salvation.*