

REDEEMER



REPORTER

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH - APRIL 2011

"The judgment for sin, the promise of new life"

This is a disappointing time of the year for many of us, especially for the brothers and sisters in Christ who are beginning to make their way back north. It seems as though you just got here, but now it's time to say good-bye. God bless you.

It's sad for us too who live here year round because we won't be able to share in the proclamation: "He's ____! He's ____, indeed! Allel ____!" We're still in the thick of the season of Lent. Easter isn't until April 24th. Rats!

I'm so tired of having to discipline myself to fast and make preparation for Holy Week and reflect on the bitter, sufferings, and death of Jesus. I want to celebrate the Lord's resurrection now so that I can at least eat what I want when I want it and not be burdened by self-discipline and holy living.

I mean really, the weather outside is outstanding. I want to indulge. I want to satisfy my desires (especially my appetite). But, what I really need to do is repent and re-direct my thoughts on Christ Jesus and all that He has done for me and for my salvation. Furthermore, I should also reflect what God forbids me to do and the things He requires me to do in service to my neighbor.

When first thinking about all the things I want (covetousness) and all the things I want to do (frivolous living), I recall to mind what the Word of God says regarding the consequence and result of sin, any sin: death (Romans 6:23a). That's God's judgment upon sin. It must die. But, I am a sinner. Therefore, I must die.

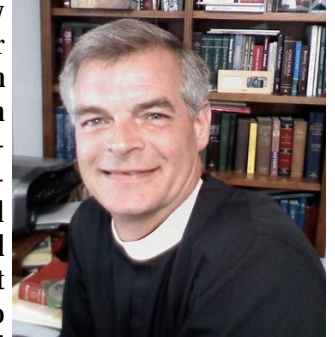
Thankfully, I am also reminded in God's Word of what He has done in order that the full payment for sin, all sin, is made complete: Christ Jesus died once for all, not by the means of the blood of goats and calves but by means of His own blood upon the cross (Hebrews 9:12).

In other words, the punishment for my sin is paid by the just judgment of the Father upon His innocent Son, Christ Jesus. What has Christ Jesus done to deserve to die? Nothing. What have I done to deserve to live? Nothing. What has Christ Jesus done to deserve such a sharp just judgment for sin? Again, nothing. What have I done to deserve the Father's pardon and peace? And again, nothing.

This is the most astounding, mind-boggling judgment of all. The Father's just judgment for sin poured upon the person of Jesus. "For our sake, He made Jesus to be sin who knew no sin, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God" (2 Corinthians 5:21).

My mind can hardly grasp it. But, truth be told, it is the Divine plan, God's plan of salvation for mankind. "For God so loved the

world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life" (John 3:16). The Father's just judgment is at the heart of the gospel; it is what makes the gospel glorious. It certainly puzzles and confuses my mind, but it is what God has designed in order to save His most cherished and loved creation, me.



With knowing and believing in this precious gospel truth, why do I continue to think and say and do sinful things? Why am I disobedient, unfaithful, and lazy? Why am I hot-tempered, rude, and quarrelsome? Why have I hurt people by my words or my deeds? Why have I stolen, been negligent, wasted things, or caused harm? And finally, why am I so quick to cast judgment on others?

I'm reminded again of the Word of God when Jesus was so brutal in His condemnation of all those who look at the faults of others but ignore their own. Jesus said, "Judge not, that you be not judged. For with what judgment you judge, you will be judged; and with the measure you use, it will be measured back to you. And why do you look at the speck in your brother's eye, but do not consider the plank in your own eye? Or how can you say to your brother, 'Let me remove the speck from your eye'; and look, a plank *is* in your own eye? Hypocrite! First remove the plank from your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye" (Matthew 7:1-5).

Ouch, that hurts! Every time I hear it I am reminded of why God's Law is so useful. God's Law shows me my sin in order that I may desire a savior and receive the Gospel saving message in the precious gift of my Lord and Savior: "Your sins are forgiven."

As God's Word and Spirit work in my heart, I need to let God's love and forgiveness transform me and make me a new person with a new attitude, especially toward my neighbor. The Apostle Paul writes, "Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you" (Ephesians 4:31-32).

So, I'm thankful it's still Lent. I need to discipline and exam-

Pastor	Rev. James Kress
Child Care Director	Wendy Horvath
Office Secretary	Jennifer Steele
Organists	Bill Bowers Lanette Schmidt
Choir Director	Doris Dykhuizen

OFFICERS

President	Ed Sheahan
Vice President	
Treasurer	Pat Luedtke
Secretary	Dorothy Sinowetski

BOARDS

Head Elder	Tim Byrne
Assimilation	Jane Hoivik
Property Mgmt	Charlie Vovcsko
Christian Ed.	Pam Replinger
Human Care	Carol Sheahan
Outreach	Carol Haupt
School Board	Bill Bowers
Stewardship	Sarah Watkins
Youth	

Financial Secretary	Karen Kirkland
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CLUBS/GUILDS

Ladies Guild	Doris Dykhuizen
Men's Group	Bob Mortenson
Christian Support	Margie Cypher

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Well here we are going into my favorite time of the year in Florida. Springtime, daylight savings time, consistently warm weather and calm seas. It's amazing how time flies down here in our little piece of paradise.

The business side of Redeemer continues to run smoothly and I am very happy to report that Pat Luedtke, our treasurer, has made the initial deposit to the newly created dedicated account for any uninsured wind or hail damage. As you recall, we were able to affect a significant savings by self-insuring for this part of our coverage. As a congregation we made the decision to use this savings to fund a reserve account for this purpose and this purpose only. I think this was a wise decision and am very pleased to be able to report that this account is now being funded. The account will continue to be funded on a quarterly basis.

At our most recent council meeting Jane Hoivik speaking for the Ladies Guild inquired as to the status of \$600 they have earmarked for the sound absorption project at the Fellowship Hall. Based on the success of the project in the large room, the council decided to pursue avenues to complete the job in the smaller room. Since the \$600 was not needed for the sound absorption in the large room it was decided to maintain the dedicated fund for a future project in the small room. I will soon be in the process of securing estimates for the work in the small room. I will keep you advised of the progress.

The volunteer efforts here at Redeemer continue to gladden my heart. Our recent "Spring Clean-Up" was once again a great success. Many thanks go to Charlie Vovcsko and his committee and all the volunteers who took part. I also want to applaud all of the other folks who donate so much of their time and talent to the church. The women and men who serve on committees, who fold our bulletins, who prepare our altar, who prepare and set-up for our Lenten dinners and so much more. Thank you all very much.

Submitted by Ed Sheahan

SCHOOL BOARD NEWS

Dear Friends in Christ,

I wish to thank the congregation for it's support of the March 18 fundraiser. The taco dinner was attended by almost 90 adults and was a huge success. Then children all had a chance to "break the piñata" at the end of our fiesta, which unleashed a wave of candy and prizes. We were blessed with over \$300 in profit to go toward our new playground equipment, which is needed to meet coalition and state requirements. The true success of the evening is that we have more and more families who look to our church as a place of gathering and fellowship. Getting the child care families accustomed to attending events here provides us with an opportunity to grow God's kingdom and increase our Church membership. We are reminded and focused on our Day Care mission, which is evangelism.

If you were unable to attend the event and would still like to contribute to the playground fund, both the Church and the School have a dedicated fund for this purpose. Please indicate on your envelope or check the amount of your playground fund gift.

While I have this monthly opportunity, I am both privileged and thrilled to announce the addition of Lisa Kress to our staff as our new Assistant Director. This position has been open since November and the absence of an assistant has placed many additional responsibilities on Wendy. While we appreciate her additional efforts, and cannot find words to express our gratitude to Wendy for stepping up and filling the additional responsibilities, it was time for us to provide the additional help that she had been requesting.

In addition to classroom duties, Lisa will be assisting Wendy with administrative responsibilities, enrolling new students, coordinating and updating social networking between school and parents, and helping to expand the Biblical studies already present in our curriculum. Teaching the children about Jesus will increasingly become the daily focus. Lisa will also be working the phones to day care families in an effort to increase our Sunday School attendance. Most importantly, the Moms and Dads of our students will see our Pastor's wife everyday, when they drop off and when they pick up their children. I personally can't think of a better liaison to the parents of our students and trust that the Lord will bless us with exponential increases in our Sunday School attendance.

Thank you for your continuing support, without which, our child care ministry could not continue to thrive.

In Christ's Service,

Bill Bowers

Chairman, Redeemer School Board

Continued from page 1, "the judgment for sin"

ine myself. I am reminded once again when St. Paul explains to Timothy that I begin to gossip about others when I don't have enough to do (1 Timothy 5:13). It has been correctly stated: "An idle mind is the devil's workshop." I can't allow Satan to set up shop in my head. Instead, I need to remain busy serving others. I need to seek to live a new life toward God and those I have criticized in the past.

I look with great joy toward the celebration of the resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, not just this year on April 24th, but also every Sunday of every year knowing I need not judge anyone and that the judgment for sin, all sin, has been paid in full. "Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! (Romans 7:24-25a). Amen.

Happy Easter,

Pastor Kress

Our Lord has written the promise of
the resurrection, not in books alone,
but in every leaf in spring-time.

~Martin Luther

"In the bonds of Death He lay Who for our offence
was slain; But the Lord is risen to-day, Christ hath
brought us life again, Wherefore let us all rejoice,
Singing loud, with cheerful voice, Hallelujah!"

~Martin Luther

STEWARDSHIP

In April the season of Lent ends and the season of Easter begins. Lent is a time for repentance and reflection. During Lent we have a lengthy opportunity to take a careful look at ourselves and realize that way too often we fall short of our Lord's expectations. We do what we should not be doing and we fail to do what we should be doing. This is true also for us as stewards. Rather than being generous in our use of time, talents and money we often selfishly use our lives and resources for ourselves rather than for God's purposes. God blesses us with all of life and life's resources so that we might be a blessing to others. Our old sin natures urge us to use all these things first for ourselves and then, if there is something left over, for others and God's purposes.

We recognize with St. Paul that *"it is required that those who have been given a trust must prove faithful."* (1 Corinthians 4:2) We have been entrusted with all of life and life's resources (all owned by God) with the expectation that we will use them wisely and well. Way too often we fail to do what God expects. The good news is that when on Good Friday Jesus said *"It is finished"* He meant that with His holy life and sacrificial death He paid the full price for our sins and guilt. So, when our past failures as God's stewards bother us, we can take

those sins and shortcomings to our Lord in prayer, repent of them and receive the assurance that we are made right with God through the sacrifice of Jesus. Forgiveness is the best way to handle our past failures!

Easter brings us a breath of fresh air filled with joy and hope! As St. Paul wrote: *"He [Jesus] was delivered over to death for our sins and was raised to life for our justification."* (Romans 4:25) That truth makes us into Easter people—people filled with joy and hope! Our memory of past shortcomings makes us feel guilty and ashamed. Easter replaces our failures and makes us into people of hope and hope is stronger than memory because *"Hope in Christ does not disappoint us because God has poured out His love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom He has given us."* (Romans 5:5)

On Easter we greet each other by saying that *Jesus Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!* Because of Christ's Easter victory we have the sure hope that we are redeemed stewards who, in cooperation with and encouragement from our fellow redeemed stewards, freely and joyfully manage all of life and life's resources for God's purposes.

Dear fellow stewards, a happy Easter to you all!

Submitted by Sarah Watkins



From the Treasurer's Desk

2011 Church Actual vs. Budget Through February 28, 2011

OFFERINGS BUDGET
\$42,158.84

OFFERINGS RECEIVED
\$42,139.00

EXPENSES
\$38,836.10

CONFIDENTIALITY - THE CORE OF STEPHEN MINISTRY

According to Webster's Dictionary, the definition of confidentiality is "entrusted with private or secret matter." This means what is shared is strictly between you and whom you choose to share it with. This makes confidentiality the very core of Stephen Ministry and is taken seriously in all of our Caregiving relationships here at Redeemer. As we work with our care receivers, trust develops because of confidentiality. It is a skill that was first learned and practiced in our training and continues to be reinforced at all of our Supervisory meetings that occur twice per month. We hold one another accountable to maintain confidentiality by never disclosing our care receivers names or any information that would disclose who they are unless they, themselves have given us permission to do so. If approached by another family member, friend, or church member, we politely explain confidentiality to them, never disclosing who we are ministering to through Stephen Ministry. This protects the care receiver and builds trust in the caring relationship. We pray you understand the importance of this and accept these essential guidelines as this is what makes Stephen Ministry successful. We also ask that you keep the Stephen Ministry program in your prayers. It is a Christian ministry of reaching out in love to those that are hurting in any way, be it a loss of a job, loss of a loved one, loneliness, divorce, separation, serious illness, or for any other crisis. The referral may come from another church member, the Pastor, a family member, neighbor, or friend. Stephen Ministry is described as "Christ caring for people through people." Thank you for your understanding, your support, and your prayers. Yours in Christ, Carol Carlos, Carol Haupt, Nancy Hall

The lily that blooms around Easter is a symbol of Christ's resurrection because it rises from a seemingly lifeless bulb decaying in the ground. It is also used as a symbol of Christ himself.



EASTER LILIES

If you would like to place a Lily Plant beside the altar for the Easter services, please sign your name on the sheet provided on the activity desk in the narthex. The cost is \$7.50. Your donation may be placed in your offering envelope and marked "Lily". We encourage you to take your plant home after the service you attend. (Perhaps you would like to give it to a friend as an Easter Blessing!)

Sunday School News

He is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia! While the beginning of Lent is underway as I write this article, we in Sunday School are looking forward to Holy Week and bringing the Alleluia's back on Easter Sunday!! We will be singing praises to Jesus on Palm Sunday at the 10:30AM service, "Hosanna, Loud Hosanna!". We also look forward to Easter Sunday and the Easter egg hunt at 9:15 AM, which will be during the Sunday School hour. We will have a continental breakfast for the children and the families to follow! We look forward to seeing you there!!

As we continue through the Spring season, we will learn about Jesus Passion, Resurrection and the beginning of the early church! The Sunday School is looking for volunteers in various areas: Teachers and bus drivers. We also would love and appreciate donations of snacks and drinks and candy for the Easter egg hunt. If you have any questions please call Lisa Kress 941-889-8938.

In Christ,
Lisa Kress



PRAYERS

SHUT-INS: Gloria Carlson, Evelyn Etheridge, Ruth Jansch, Jim Prather, and Ruth Sutley.

HEALING: Members: Marjorie Boliere, Joe Carlos, Bernice Heppner, Dick & Lorraine Hughes, Bob Johnson, Cliff Larsen, Gary Lute, Clara Mitchell, Leona Morrison, Jaye Nistendirk, Don Plesner, Lanette Schmidt, Duwayne Schoeneck, Ed Sita, Anna Smith, Marie Talley, Barbara Wolgast, Ronald Woller, Eileen Zwick.

Friends & Relatives: Lorraine Agens, Linny Aspery, Grace Blum, Randy Bradshaw, Georgia Bush, Raymond Carlos, Julie Carroll, Shirley Chattin, Bobbett Clark, Carly DeFeos, Renee Dempsey, John Denick, the family and friends of Marcus Freeman, Manual Galan, Ellen Hammerschlag, Debbie Harrison, Larry Headun, Claudette Hendershot, Glory Herget, Bill Hillis, Robin Hincman, Jeff Hoivik, Tom Holt, Stanley Jablonski, the family of Bob Janmey, Douglas Johnson, Heather Johnson, Betty Kabert, Rachel Kagay, Julie Keck, Jim Lane, Denise Line, Sean Maki, Elsie Malecki, Dan Mason, Joe Manson, Patrick McCord, Vinnie Meli, Pete Mogg, Kaye Gene Mortenson, Ann Nagel, Judy Nagel, Rev. Gary Nehring, Dan Niemann, Josh Niemann, Darwin Oliver, Charles Pentecost Jr., the family of Albert Pickell, Mary Raines, Sherrie Rhoades, Donna Santora-Vovcsko, Audrey Slusher, Nancy Sly, Michael Stio, Eva Tabbitas, Samantha Jo Ann Toth, Phyllis Tucker, Helen Weishaar, Cindy Whitaker, Gordon Winkel, Ida Wippich, Andrew Wolgast.

Military Personnel: Daniel Anderson, Matthew Anderson, Adam Buchner, Eric Byrne, Kevin Copeman, Christopher Dutch, Michael Garza, Christopher Hankins, Jonathan Hibbard, Jonathan Hudson, Nathan Hudson, Brian Jackson, Keith Janssen, Josh Johnson, Joshua Jones, Eric Kieselburg, Jesse Krone, Michael Monson, Jesse Morse, Christian Mosser, Jeremy Schaitz, Scott Senna, Brandon Smith, Jeremy Twombly, Katherine Utroska, Matthew Walenta, and Charles Weishaar.

APRIL COFFEE HOUR

3rd: Judy Murphy
Tim Frees
LorraineWright

10th: Carol Carlos
Donna Antonelli
Judy Scarangella

17th: Bud & LorraineWright
Fred & Vickie Fernald

24th: Redeemer Ladies Guild

Provided by Assimilation

APRIL GREETERS

3rd: 8:00 AM - Helen Plank, Donna Antonelli
10:30 AM - Dorothy Sinowetski

10th: 8:00 AM - Helen Plank, Donna Antonelli
10:30 AM - Russ & Carol Spooner

17th: 8:00 AM - Helen Plank, Donna Antonelli
10:30 AM - Arlene Harden

24th: 8:00 AM - Helen Plank, Donna Antonelli
10:30 AM - Shirley Zatkalik

Provided by Assimilation



PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

Spring is finally here! The weather is warming, school's winding down and baseball season is getting underway. Here at Redeemer a large group of volunteers have been working diligently at sprucing up our facilities. Close to 200 men/women hours have been given willingly in the last few weeks during our Spring clean up.

You may have noticed the beautiful staining of our benches on the pathway leading to the Sanctuary, or seen a vast difference in the Oak trees and Palms on our property. The choir robes will have a wonderful new home in the choir room. Our Childcare has new sand in the children's sandboxes.

All these projects and more have been donated by our members, once again proving Redeemer's family is blessed to have so many good Stewards. Thanks to all participants and their families.

Submitted by the Property Management Board, Redeemer Lutheran Church and Childcare

Thank You

A big "thank you" to all who have donated pillowcases, bias tape, trim, thread, etc. for our "Pillowcase Dress for Haiti". Thanks also to the ladies who came to help cut and sew. We have been able to finish 100 dresses that will be sent to Haiti via the Orphan Grain Train in May. A special thank you to the Monday morning tap class who were the first to donate!

Submitted by the Monday Morning Quilting Group



LADIES GUILD

We have had a very busy season with interesting guest speakers and activities. In November we had the annual Treats and Treasures sale. Everyone pitched in to make this extremely successful. Thanks to Margie for organizing this event. Our guest speaker this month was Andrea from the Charlotte County Red Cross. Andrea spoke about the "Red Dot Program". December was our annual Christmas Party at Rotonda Hills. At the party we accepted donations for the Child Care Angel Scholarship Fund. In January we held our annual, sold-out Style Show with fashions from Patchington's in Venice. With the proceeds from this show we were able to provide several monetary gifts to mission projects of our church and also to local charities. We are grateful to Thrivent for giving matching funds. At the February meeting Vicky presented an informative report about the creation of LWML and how it has evolved over the years. Pastor Kress answered questions about the new Good Samaritan Fund. In February, Ladies Guild designated the "Bakeless Bake Sale" proceeds to this fund and collected \$425.00. Assimilation has also given a very generous donation to the fund. At our March meeting, Dr. Noel, Audiologist, gave a presentation explaining the different types of hearing loss and the various types of hearing aids available. At this meeting we decided to purchase two kitchen carts that we need before the Lenten Suppers begin. Again this year, Jane will make Easter baskets for shut-ins and we will be asking for volunteers to deliver them on Palm Sunday. We also decided to keep some "seed" money in an account for any future sound-proofing. Possibly the smaller Fellowship Center room.

We are happy to report that all Lenten Suppers are spoken for except for April 13. Please let Doris know if you can help out on this date.

This season has gone by so quickly. Our last meeting, April 8 will be held at the home of Doris, our current and future President. Doris is keeping this surprise luncheon very hush-hush. She assures us it will be lots of fun.

Please consider helping out on the board. We still need a Vice President and a Secretary. Be assured, you will get a lot of help and tons of thanks. Something to think about over the summer.

Submitted by Carol Sheahan

SCRIP

April orders will be taken Sunday, April 10 after both services. These orders will be returned Sunday, April 17. April will be the last month for Scrip orders until November, so stock up for the summer months. SCRIP is a substitute for money. They are gift cards for everything from fast food restaurants, grocery stores, department stores, gasoline, movies, to office supply stores and many, many more. Each month an updated list is on the narthex desk. Anyone who is interested should pick up a copy and see what is available. The percentage the Ladies Guild/LWML earns is based on the amount of SCRIP orders for the month. These earnings are used for our Mission Projects. Your support is appreciated. If you have any questions, please call Sybil Grahl at 475-0263.

Thank You, Sybil Grahl, SCRIP Chairman

CLASSIFIEDS

Beautician/Manicurist	Debbie Balogh Linda Pontello	Purple Palace Purple Palace	941-475-0731 941-475-0731
Painter/Handyman	If it's broken, I can fix it. Satisfaction Guaranteed. Please call John Toth - Home: 941-697-1670, Cell: 941-875-6191.		
Sales—Rentals	Pineapple Gulf Properties—Glenda McDorman, Owner/Broker (Lessie Kirch's Daughter) 880 S. McCall Road Englewood, FL 34223 . Office: 941-473-0300, Cell: 941-330-7922.		
For Sale	Like new, excellent condition shuffle board (ten feet long) Original purchase price was \$375 and is being sold for \$75, a great deal. Please call Judy Scarangella at 460-9155 if interested.		
Lawn Care	For your weeds and trees lawn care, please call Todd Armstrong at 941-961-7584.		

A Special Thank you

We would like to thank all of you for your prayers concerning our move to Punta Gorda and especially your prayers for the safety of our daughter, Janet (and Randy) as they lived through the earthquake in Japan! They live on the 17th floor of an apartment highrise in Tokyo. Any quake or after-shock over 6.0 causes the building to creak, groan and sway! The 9.0 quake was bad enough, but the almost constant after-shocks were very nerve wracking. They are both safely out of Japan!

Thanks also to the choir for the rousing send-off they gave me at the last practice session I attended. Doris, your "lyric composing" is worthy of an Oscar!!!! (Marj) And Pastor Kress, the Christian farewell was so special. We were both so moved by it. The hardest part of moving away is leaving our very special Redeemer family! You all remain in our thoughts and prayers. Please don't hesitate to come visit us.

Our new address is: 317 Monaco Drive, Punta Gorda, FL 33950. Our new landline phone number is: 941-916-9334. Cell phone number remains the same: 763-636-3258. E-Mail is also the same.

Again, our love and thanks to our wonderful Redeemer family!

Harv and Marj Sterriker

DONATION NEEDED

A fellow congregation member is in need of a sofa. If anyone has one that they would be willing to donate, please contact Lessie Kirch at 475-3689. Thank you!

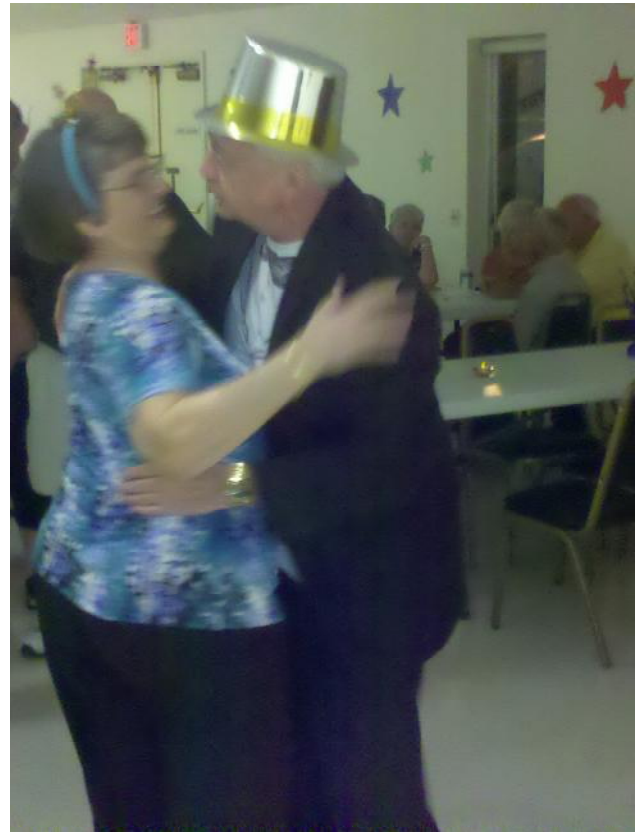
Nurses or medical personnel

Please consider assisting with blood pressures on the last Sunday of every month. This is an inreach program of our human care ministry. This is one way of showing your loving care to our Redeemer congregation. Please contact Carol Carlos at 941-255-3354 or see you at church.

CHILD CARE TACO NIGHT



DANCING WITH THE STARS



CROP WALK 2011



BE A FRIEND (SPONSOR)!

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED TO SPONSOR OUR NEW MEMBERS

What do you need to do?

When you are assigned a new member, contact them to arrange to meet them at church on Sunday to welcome them to our Redeemer family.

Tell them about Redeemer and invite them to activities.

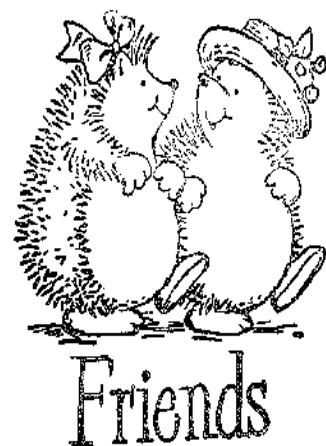
Introduce them to other members.

Treat them as you would like to be treated if you were joining a new church. We were all new members at one time and recall how seeing a familiar face on Sunday morning was most comforting!

If you would like to be a FRIEND (SPONSOR) to a new member, please sign up at the Activity Desk in the narthex.

The New Member Committee of the Assimilation Board thanks you for your help!

Ellie Ratzlaff 474-7869
New Member Chairman



NEW MEMBERS

CORKY & WANDA ECKMAN

611 Via Cala
Englewood, FL 34224
(612) 850-4041 (Corky)
(218) 929-3414 (Wanda)

Corky and Wanda are from Minnesota. Corky is a retired police officer and Wanda is a retired Ceramics Teacher. Corky's hobby is constructing model railroads.



Lynda Christoffers

15850 Aqua Circle
Port Charlotte, FL 33981
(941) 697-5982

Lynda came to Florida two years ago from New York. She is a retired consultant and had her own consulting firm. Lynda enjoys dancing, reading and boating.

Richard & Deb Kueker

709 Rotonda Circle
Rotonda West, FL 33947
(941) 698-0876

Rich and Deb are from Indiana. Rich retired from management at Sears in Port Charlotte. Deb is a retired Lutheran Teacher. Rich and Deb enjoy gardening and golfing.



CHILD CARE NEWS

ENROLLMENT IS 85 CHILDREN

Bible Lessons

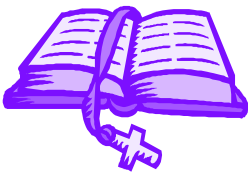
Chapel is on Mondays
at 3:45

4/4 Children Praise Jesus
Matthew 21:7-11, 14-16

4/11 Jesus Dies and Arises
Matthew 27:32-28:6; John 20:11-18

4/18 Easter
John 20

4/25 Peter and the Crippled Man
Acts 3:1-16



Jesus is alive!

See Revelation 1:18.

Submitted by Wendy Horvath

Birthdays

4/1 Amanda
4/7 Nicholas C.
4/7 Rylie
4/18 Rafael
4/25 Coltin C.



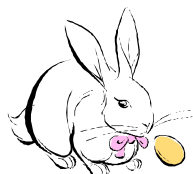
Welcome to Redeemer Child Care

Ms. Lisa, Charlotte, William and Hayden

Welcome back
Ms Courtney! We missed you!

Donations needed

Candy and Plastic eggs for an Easter Egg Hunt at the Child Care on April 21st



What We Are Learning...

March 28- April 8 Tell Me A Story (Classic Stories)

April 11-15 Fun and Fantasy (Make Believe)

April 18-22 Easter

April 25- May 6 Creppy Crawlies (Bugs/Earth Day)

Playground Fundraiser

A great big thank you to all those who joined us for Taco Dinner. The food was FANTASTIC! We were able to add \$390.00 to our Playground Fund.



Child Care is Closed

April 22 for Good Friday

YOUTH NEWS

Stone Crabs Baseball!

The Charlotte County Stone Crabs begin their season of minor league baseball on Thursday, April 7th. The Board of Youth has reserved 30 tickets for her members to purchase, but they are going fast. If you are interested in attending Opening Day festivities, please contact Pastor Kress or call the church office to reserve your seat at the ball park. Tickets are \$9 each. Everyone attending the game will also receive a free Stone Crab baseball cap. Hall of Famer Cal Ripken Jr. will throw out the games first pitch. And following the ball-game, there will be a fireworks display. We will reserve the use of our bus and/or vans if you are in need of transportation to and from the game. The game is scheduled to start at 6:30 PM. We will plan to leave Redeemer approximately 4:45 PM due to the anticipation of a large crowd. **PLAY BALL!**

Youth Car Wash!

Mark your calendar! The Jr. and Sr. High Youth Group of Redeemer Lutheran Church will conduct a carwash on Saturday, April 16th in the church parking lot from 9 am until noon. All members of the church are encouraged to participate in this event by driving their vehicle to church and have it cleaned. The Board of Youth also encourages members to spread the word around inviting friends and neighbors to participate as well. There will be no charge, but we encourage a donation that may reflect the cleanliness of your car and the joy of watching someone else do it. See you (and your dirty cars), Saturday, April 16th!

Yours in Christ,

The Board of Youth



JAPAN DISASTER: Long-term Needs Increase

Even as the disaster in Japan begins to fade from headlines, recovery and rebuilding will take a long time. LCMS partners in Japan are looking to us to help reach out with Christ's mercy to people suffering after the 9.0 magnitude earthquake, tsunami and subsequent nuclear power-plant crisis.

By March 21, the total number of people killed or missing as a result of the March 11 disaster had climbed to 21,459, according to the National Police Agency in Japan. Some 320,000 evacuees are in shelters, also according to news reports. Radiation concerns persist. "We are working with our Lutheran partners on the ground in Japan and preparing for a long-haul response," said Rev. John Fale, interim executive director of LCMS World Relief and Human Care (WR-HC). To date, WR-HC has announced \$200,000 in grants to the Japan Lutheran Church and the West Japan Evangelical Lutheran Church to meet needs.

During this blessed Lenten season, LCMS President Matthew C. Harrison asks for prayers and continued financial support "as we strive to bring the help and hope of Christ to people who are hurting."

PLEASE HELP TODAY!

Pray: Please pray for those who have lost loved ones, homes and livelihoods. Please pray that Lutheran disaster response efforts touch many lives with God's hope and mercy.

Connect: To learn more, visit www.lcms.org/worldrelief or find us on Facebook and Twitter.

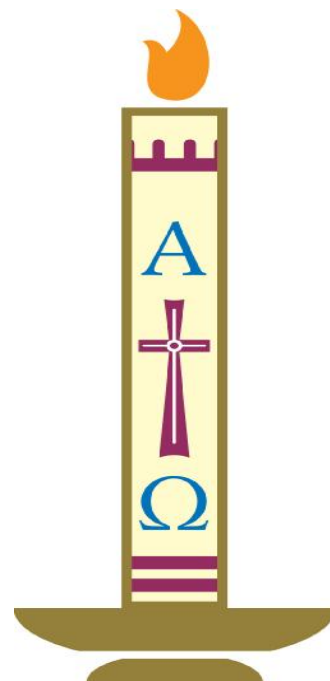
Give: To make a donation for Lutheran relief efforts —

- Mail checks (noting "Japan Disaster Relief" in the memo line) to:
LCMS World Relief and Human Care
P.O. Box 66861
St. Louis MO 63166-6861
- Phone toll-free 888-930-4438
- Go online to <http://giveonline.lcms.org>

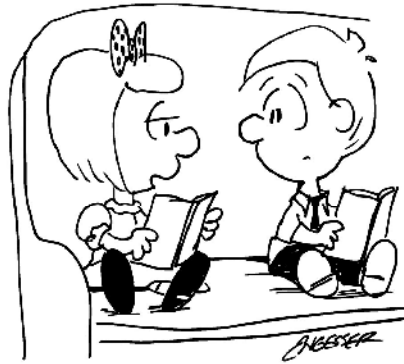
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Paschal Candle

This large, white candle is an ancient symbol for Christ, the light of the world. The candle contains a cross and/or an Alpha and Omega to symbolize that Jesus is eternal and always present with his people. Also called the Easter candle, it plays a prominent role during Easter vigils and celebrations. Some churches also use the candle during baptisms and funerals.



As we joyously celebrate Christ's resurrection, be assured that it means you have eternal life in Him.



"No, Peter Cottontail was not an apostle!"



"What could I say? They are her most Easterly shoes."

HOT CROSS BUNS

Make this traditional Easter recipe to remember how Christ gave his life for you.

What you need:

- 1 can (12 oz.) evaporated milk
- 1 stick (½ cup) butter, melted
- ½ cup sugar
- Pinch of salt
- 1½ Tablespoons yeast
- 1 egg, beaten
- ½ teaspoon cinnamon
- ½ teaspoon nutmeg
- 5 cups flour
- Icing
- An adult to help

What you do:

1. In large bowl, combine the first eight ingredients.
2. Stir in flour, one cup at a time, to form soft dough. Knead on a floured surface until smooth and elastic (about five minutes).
3. Place in a greased bowl, turning once to grease top. Cover and let rise until doubled (about one hour).
4. Knead out air bubbles. Form six two-inch balls.
5. Place two inches apart on a greased cookie sheet. Cover and let rise until doubled (about 30 minutes).
6. Bake at 375 degrees until golden (13 to 15 minutes). Cool on wire racks.
7. Add icing in a cross shape. Enjoy!

BIBLE QUIZ

According to the Gospel of Luke, two men were walking to a village on the afternoon of Resurrection Sunday (Easter). Both men had been acquainted with the life and ministry of Jesus. Along the way the risen Christ joined the two men. One man was named Cleopas. The other man is not named.

What is the name of the village to which they were walking?

- A. Bethany
- B. Bethlehem
- C. Emmaus

How many miles was the village from Jerusalem?

- A. Seven
- B. Six
- C. Five

The answers can be found in Luke 24:13.

Answers: C; A



EVERY SUNDAY IS A LITTLE EASTER

Beginning with the first Easter, the celebration of the Resurrection has been the focus of Christian worship. Because the early disciples were Jews they would have observed the Sabbath on Saturday. However, the first day of the week became the day for Christian worship. It was known as the Lord's Day, the day of Resurrection. Our weekly Sunday worship is a celebration of Jesus' resurrected presence with us - a little Easter each week.

The season of Lent is 40 days long, not counting Sundays. The actual number of days from Lent's start on Ash Wednesday to (but not including) Easter Sunday is 46 days. But because the church sees every Sunday as a mini-Easter celebrating Christ's resurrection, the six Sundays that occur during those 46 days are not counted as part of Lent.

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REV. JAMEST. KRESS, SR.

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WORSHIP SERVICES:

October - April: 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM

Adult Bible Study and Sunday School: 9:15 AM

CHURCH OFFICE PHONE: 941-475-2410

*We, the members of Redeemer Lutheran Church are called into the service of our Lord by
receiving His command (Matthew 28: 18-20):*

- Making disciples of all nations/peoples*
- Baptizing them in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.*
- Proclaiming the Gospel and teaching the Word.*

Christ's love for us compels us to serve our brothers and sisters as He served us