



Oct/Nov 2020



**THE LORD WILL PROVIDE**

A year ago, the President of our Congregation, Mr. Wade Duncan, made an announcement to the congregation at the October Quarterly Voters’ Assembly that our reserve accounts will all be but depleted by the middle of 2020 unless our members re-evaluated their yearly offering to the ministry at Redeemer. When I did my best to reassure him saying, “The Lord will provide,” Wade agreed that he himself would do all he could to remember to trust in the Lord to provide.

For me, the account of Abraham and his son Isaac brings to remembrance of God’s promise to Abraham as well as Abraham’s trust in God. When Abraham was directed by the Lord to offer his son, his only son, Isaac, as a sacrifice, he did so trusting in the Lord to either, put a stop to it, that is, have a change of heart, or raise his son from death after he was slain. Abraham didn’t know how this was going to happen. He simply trusted in the Lord to provide. And when Abraham was about to slay his son his only son, Isaac, the Lord spoke to him and provided a ram as the substitute for sacrifice. “So Abraham called the name of that place, ‘The Lord will provide’; as it is said to this day, ‘On the mount of the Lord it shall be provided.’” (Genesis 22:14).

This account from Holy Scripture should serve as a beautiful reminder to all of us that there is a mount, that is, a rock, a foundation here at Redeemer, as there should be at every local congregation. His name is Jesus Christ, the Son of God, the Rock of our salvation whom God the Father provided as the payment for all sin.

So here we are a year later from our President’s statement. To the best of my knowledge there have been no requests made for funds from a reserve account to assist in the financial responsibilities this year. The Lord truly does provide. And He does even in the midst of a pandemic when members have been isolated to their homes and the church suffered her lowest attendance in a span of seven months. This is nothing short of a miracle. The financial reports tell the story of the Lord providing even in a most difficult time.

According to our Treasurer’s and Financial Secretary’s Reports, the weekly envelope offerings are well above last year. Moreover, the loose plate offerings are also far and above last year’s numbers. You might asked yourself, “How can this be, especially with such a small attendance?”

The answer to that question is answered through the mysterious work of God. In reaction to the pandemic, the Board of Elders decided, with my pastoral guidance, to offer three Sunday Services, two Midweek Lenten Services (remember this all began during the season of Lent),

*(Continued on page 2)*

Inside this issue

- Pastors Message..... 1-3
- LCEF .....3
- Stewardship .....4
- Choir .....4
- Treasurer’s Report ....5
- Bible Study .....5
- Property App Day .....5
- Prayer List .....6
- Child Care .....7
- School .....8-11
- Puzzle .....12
- Inspiration .....13

and a Saturday morning “Drive-up” Communion Service. The Elders also agreed to begin streaming the 9:15 am Sunday Divine Service via Facebook Live. This effort was created by Caitlin Tilton and she deserves the credit for our media ministry. By the way, this media ministry not only served the members and associate members of Redeemer, but also proved to be an amazing outreach tool extending our services around the world.

As a result, the members and associate members of Redeemer Lutheran Church, even though most were self-isolated to help flatten the curve, faithfully mailed their weekly offerings to the church. In addition to that, donations from some very charitable givers gave as a result of viewing our services on Facebook Live as well as through watching my Daily Devotions of Comfort & Assurance that were uploaded onto our Facebook page. Bottom line: the Word of God was getting out in ways we never considered before even in the midst of financial uncertainty and the spread of a global pestilence.

But even more than that, the Lord also increased Redeemer’s membership. I am reminded in Holy Scripture that it is the Lord who provides the increase and growth of His Church. During this time of isolation and social distancing, Redeemer suspended coffee hour, family breakfasts, fundraisers and evangelism programs. And yet, the Lord provided an increase in membership. That’s right, an increase! Redeemer welcomed into fellowship 15 new members into her fold. Truly the Lord provides.

By the grace of God, the Word is preached in its truth and purity and the Sacraments administered according to Christ’s institution. In other words, the Word is planted and watered into the ears and hearts of hearers. The believers are moved by the power of the Holy Spirit into Redeemer’s holy house of worship to be fed and nourished; to know their sins are forgiven; to know they get to go to heaven by God’s grace through faith in

*(Continued on page 3)*

## SERVING THE LORD

Pastor Rev. James Kress

Child Care Director Wendy Horvath

Office Admin Asst Caitlin Tilton

Organist Bill Bowers

Choir Director Collins Sita

Newsletter Editor Pat Finkenbine

### OFFICERS

President Wade Duncan

Vice President Bill Bowers

Treasurer

Secretary Caitlin Tilton

### BOARDS

Head Elder Mike Nagel

Christian Ed.

Human Care Lisa Kress

Outreach

Assimilation Anne Varone

School Board

Stewardship

Youth Alan Duburg

Financial Secretary Mindy Duncan

Property Mgmt.

### GROUPS/GUILDS

Ladies Guild Sally Zierdt

Men’s Group

Altar Guild

Coffee Hour

## THE LORD WILL PROVIDE (CONT'D)

Jesus Christ; and to actively participate in the body of Christ through the faithful giving of their time, talents and tithes.

During the most difficult of situations, why are we so surprised when the Lord provides? Rather than look surprised, let us rejoice! As we continue to trust in the Lord to provide, let us continue to live out our lives in that trust in the Lord as true believers in Christ Jesus. Let us trust that His good and gracious will be done not only in heaven, but also here on earth and especially here at Redeemer Lutheran Church, School & Child Care.

Absolutely no one knows where we shall be in a year from now let alone a week from now, only the Lord knows these things. However, He has called each and every one of us to carry out His work. Let us remain faithful to His Word. Let us remain faithful to the administration of His sacraments. Let us remain faithful to His Church in order that He may continue to provide and increase her growth.

May the Lord continue to supply His Church with the people, talents, and tithes necessary to spread His Gospel saving message to the lost and wandering in our community as well as abroad. And may we continue to trust in the Lord. On this Rock He will provide.

Your Humble Servant in Jesus,  
Pastor Jim Kress



**Lutheran Church Extension Fund**

> where investments build ministry

### **A Financially Strong Lutheran Partner**

Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF) has served as the financial extension of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) since 1978, offering funding and resources in support of the church. Our investors make it possible for us to provide customized loans and support services to new and growing ministries as well as loans for Rostered Church Workers who dedicate their lives to sharing the Gospel.

Prayerfully consider becoming an investor with Lutheran Church Extension Fund.

Get started with as little as \$25 by opening a Family Emergency or Young Investors StewardAccount®.

For more information, visit [LCEF.org](http://LCEF.org).

Yours in Christ,  
Rob Tilton  
LCEF Congregational Advocate

Our Father in heaven has claimed us as His own. By the shedding of His Son's blood, His death for our sins, and His resurrection for our justification, God the Father has received us back into His family. By water – combined with His Word, promise, and Name – the Holy Spirit has taken up residence in us. We belong to Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. He is in us, and we are in Him. And, being in Him, all things are ours. In Him, we are richly and abundantly blessed.

Our true treasure is that we belong to the most Holy Trinity, and everything that is His – righteousness, peace, eternal life – also belongs also to us. Even our temporal treasures are gifts from His fatherly divine goodness and mercy.

We receive our treasures from Him, and thus, as good stewards of His varied grace, we manage them in such a way that they may be returned to Him. We bring them to Him, hallowed through prayers of thanksgiving and God's holy Word, as a sacrifice.

Thus, all our possessions, as gifts from God, are also sacrifices to Him. We eat to nourish our bodies. We share with our family, neighbors, fellow Christians, the poor, and even our enemies as holy things given by the holy God. His temporal gifts are blessings to and for us, and they bring blessings upon us even as they are pressed into His service for His kingdom.

Thus, we place all that we have into God's hands, and He never fails to remember us. He pours out the fullness of His promises upon us. We give thanks for all that He has done, is doing, and will continue to do. We give thanks by not taking for ourselves, but, giving to all even as our heavenly Father has given to us.

As we prepare for the celebrations of Thanksgiving, may we all give thanks continually for all that we are and all that we have because of God's providential care. And may we be all the more diligent in bringing everything that we have received from God to Him, so that He may bless it and employ it for the good of all – even for us. For to the one who has, more will be given, and he will have an abundance.



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## *Choir*

The choir has resumed. All are welcome and encouraged to join. Contact Collins Sita or come on Wednesdays at 6:00 pm and sing to your Risen King.

***PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!***

***The deadline for the December Newsletter is November 18th  
PLEASE have all your submissions sent to [patchas123@gmail.com](mailto:patchas123@gmail.com)***

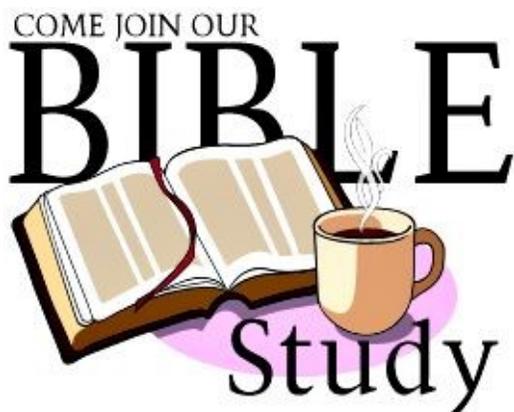
## Treasurer's Report

*As of September 30, 2020*

	<u>ACTUAL</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>OVER/UNDER</u>
INCOME	13,172	14,613	(1,441)
<u>EXPENSES</u>	<u>17,846</u>	<u>17,666</u>	180
<b>+/-</b>	(4,674)	(3,053)	
<b>YEAR TO DATE</b>			
INCOME	162,032	131,616	30,416
<u>EXPENSES</u>	<u>165,581</u>	<u>158,904</u>	6,677
<b>+/-</b>	(3,549)	(27,288)	



Respectfully submitted,  
*Jean Clappe-Mixell*  
 North Star Bookkeeping LLC



**Wednesday Morning Table Talk:** Join us in the Church Narthex on Wednesday mornings at 10:00 a.m., to gather with Pastor Kress around tables to talk theology, ask a wide range of interesting questions, and witness our own theology shaped by the Word of God. No one is required to know everything about anything. If you have questions or are interested in listening in on our Table Talk, you are welcome to join us in some engaging and thought-provoking conversations.

### PROPERTY APPRECIATION DAY

We sure could use some help on our Property Appreciation 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 Saturday, November 21st at 8:00 am.**



## PRAYERS

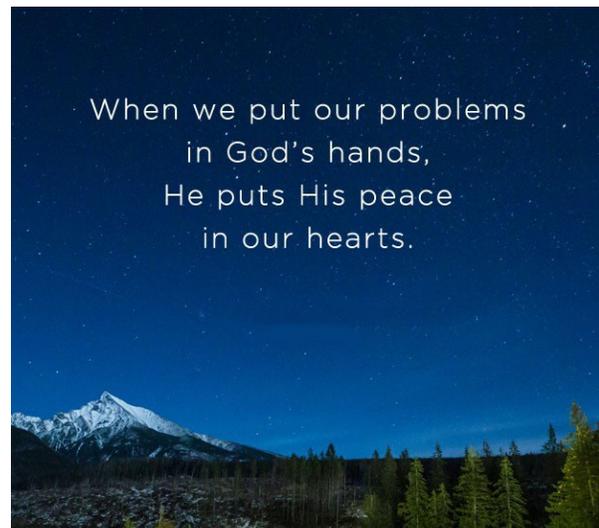
**SHUT-INS:** Susan Jahns, Rita Kaufmann, and Donna Weston

**HEALING for Members:** Neva Aldene, Carl Bertka, Bill Bowers, Sr., Jean Cote, Kathryn Demma, Ed & Jan DeTrow, Charlie & Pat Finkenbine, Don Garay, Mike & Judy Guastella, Bud & Jane Harty, Kitty Hill, Mark Horvath, Marva Jonas, Janet Lemesis, Chuck Malecki, Angela Mannato, Ken Mielke, Lillian Miles, Glenn Mossner, Mariana Murray, Mike Nagel, Bob Payne, Tom & Sue Poyer, Myra Schaub, Dorothy Sinowetski, Russ & Carol Spooner, Ron & Sandy Tandy, Caitlin Tilton, Bob Varone, Robert Vickey, and Sally Zierdt.

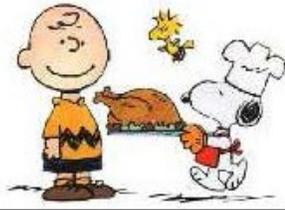
**FRIENDS & RELATIVES:** Michelle Bernard, Grace Blum, Bill Bowers, Jr., Mary Brissette, Dennis Burchell, Georgia Bush, Diane Carr, Pat Carroll, Sally Chambers, Esther Clapham, Bobbett Clark, Donna Connors, Lisa Copeman, Martin Cressman, Molly Criely, Renee Dempsey, Irene DiTommaso, Barb Dumeah, Bruce Everson, Donna Fancher, Darla Finkenbine, Gerald and Mary Fischer, Marla Flores, Manual Galan, Liam Garland, Barbara George, Sandra Gettings, Vinnie Giannola, Nancy Gleis, Mary Ann Guilfoyle, Shelley Roedel Gutz, Marlene Hagen, Jake Harper, Debbie Harrison, Dennis Hegarty, Claudette Hendershot, Glory Herget, John Hill, Robin Hincman, Roger Hinzmann, David Hirtle, Linda Holt, John Hunter, Linda Hunter, Chelsea Hutchinson, Stanley and Lynne Jablonski, Larry Jackson, Bill Jaquest, Heather Johnson, Rachel Kagay, Daniel &

Michelle Kalstrup, John Kearns, Parker Kern, Elizabeth Lynn Klopfenstein, Nancy Lake, Stacey Lampert, Ray Likowski, Janet Lixey, Joe Manson, Dave & Roberta McMullan, Pete Mogg, Mike Morrissey, Mike Moyer, Ron Mullins, Esther Murphy, Louis Nanni, Bill & Jean Nesbitt, Riley Emilia Paquette, Charles Pentecost Jr., Bill Pinkston, Robin Potts, Rob Powers, John Purdy, Mary Raines, Elaine Reebe, Paul Rollo, Sandra Scheel, Ed Sheahan, Nancy Sly, Don Stewart, Celeste Stromberg, Charles Tolley, Gwyneth Tolman, George Vespa, Jim & Judy Wahl, Steven Walker, Christy Wallace, Helen Weishaar, Gene & Donna Wensel, Gordan Winkel, Wava Zeitlow, and Martha Zimpfer.

**Military Personnel:** Mark Baranowsky, Michael Broughton, Joseph Garay, Brian Jackson, Jonathan Koen, 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!**



# Happy Thanksgiving!

## Bible Lessons

Chapel is on Mondays  
at 4:00

11/2 The Tabernacle Is  
Built  
Exodus 35-36

11/9 Gideon Wins the  
Battle  
Judges 7

11/16 David, the Singing  
Shepherd  
1 Samuel 16; Psalm 23

11/23 God Loves Naomi  
and Ruth  
The Book of Ruth



Lord,  
You helped Gideon lead  
Your people to love and  
trust in You. Forgive me  
when I do wrong. Lead me  
to love and trust in You  
too. Amen

*Submitted by Wendy Horvath*

## Birthdays

Ms. Jazmyne 11/2  
Bailey F. 11/6  
Noah 11/15  
Hailey D. 11/17  
Nathan Mc 11/21  
Ms. Wendy H. 11/28



## Family Christmas Lunch



December 23, 2020  
Family Christmas Lunch  
will be held in the  
Fellowship Hall from  
11:00 to 1:30

## Important Days

Lifetouch Photos  
Christmas setting  
November 5<sup>th</sup>.

## Upcoming Holiday Schedule

November 26 & 27 Closed

December 24 Closed  
December 25 Closed  
December 31 Closed  
January 1, 2020 Closed

## Christmas Program



Four's, VPK, After School  
and Day School children  
will be telling the story of  
"Jesse Tree" on  
December 20, 2020 at  
6:00 pm in the Church.  
All ages and families are  
welcome to join us.

## Health Checks

We will continue to have  
morning health checks.  
Please wash hands before  
entering the school!

And just like that, we have just completed our first month of school. The world is a little crazy right now and yet God gives us Joy. He has not left us on our own to figure things out. He has given us a school community to encourage one another and to come up with solutions that work. He knows exactly what we are facing, and He has a plan and a purpose in it. God works all things together for our good. He is working in our town, and in our school. He has opened doors in our school and brought in many new students. Students and parents needed another option, and Redeemer Lutheran School has become that option. A place where the love of God abounds; A place that believes that God is the same yesterday, today, and forever; A place that does not live in the spirit of fear, but in the power, and the love of God, and of sound mind. God is with us each day, offering His grace, His strength (believe me we need it), His peace, His wisdom, His hope, and His Joy. Everything that we need to make our school the place that God has called it to be.

This month we started studying the vegetation of Florida. A packet is provided to us monthly by the Florida Department of Agriculture. The vegetable of the month is the green pepper. We read about peppers, learned where they grow, dissected them, learned about the different parts of a pepper, and planted a few seeds of our own. We even cooked ourselves stuffed peppers for lunch. Many of our students tried a cooked green pepper because they made it. Some of them loved it, others packed it in their lunchbox to share with their family members at home. They all had a great time in the kitchen. Several parents were grateful that we give our students real life experiences in the classroom. We are very thankful that we are able to add experiences like cooking to our curriculum.

We are excited to add a part-time aide to our classroom. Mrs. Pam Cataloni has joined us this past week. She will be helping out in the afternoon Monday through Friday. Mrs. Pam has a long connection with the school and daycare. Her daughter Abby attended the daycare



and now is in her second year of school here at Redeemer. Mrs. Pam has volunteered in our classroom whenever we have needed her. She has planned classroom parties, planned art projects, come in to help cook, and gone on many field trips with us. She also works as a co-leader with the Girl Scout troop that meets here at Redeemer. Mrs. Pam has been working with children for many years in addition to her medical background. The kids love her as much as we do. We are glad to have her here to fill a much needed role in our classroom. If you see her around welcome her to the Redeemer School family!

We are truly blessed!

**So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand. Isaiah 41:10**



Learning about Green Peppers and Cooking Lunch

## SCHOOL—NOVEMBER

It's November already! We have been very busy here at school.

In October, we went on two field trips. Our September field trip was postponed due to flooding. We went to Babcock Ranch at the beginning of the month to learn about animals. We went on a bus tour to see different animals and learn about different ecosystems. We got to see cracker cattle, turkeys, alligators, birds, deer, wild boar, and more. Our guide taught us lots of fun facts about the animals that we were seeing and the kids enjoyed watching the animals walk alongside the bus to visit us.

We also visited the pumpkin farm later in the month. We went on a tour of the farm, fed the animals, and picked out a pumpkin. We learned all about vegetables, flowers, and animals. The pumpkins that students picked out at the farm are being used for our pumpkin book reports. Students read a book and picked a character from the book to turn their pumpkin into. Our students were so creative with their pumpkins and this was a fun way to engage their peers in learning about new books that may interest them as well.

Our students in 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade worked on a cross stitching project for art for three weeks. They learned how to make different stitches the first week. The second week of art, they applied their knowledge of the stitches to work on their owl stitching project. They finished up recently by learning how to add a border to their projects. They worked very hard on these owls and it was a neat skill for them to learn in Art.

Kindergarten and first grade are learning about nocturnal animals in science. They are reading books, making crafts, and learning about the different animal behaviors. They will be decorating our back wall to display all the animals they have learned about. In social studies, we are finishing up our unit on community helpers. We have learned about postal workers, servers, veterinarian, firefighter, police officer, mayors, and bakers. The kindergartners pretended to be bakers and made pumpkin bread.

This month has been busy, but we have accomplished a lot. Have a great month!

***Lead me, O Lord, in your righteousness because of my enemies; make your way straight before me. Psalm 5:8***



SCHOOL (CONTINUED)



HAPPY  
Thanksgiving



Church: [www.redeemerfl.com](http://www.redeemerfl.com)  
Child Care: [www.redeemerfl-cc.com](http://www.redeemerfl-cc.com)  
School: [www.redeemerfl-school.com](http://www.redeemerfl-school.com)

facebook

Redeemer Lutheran Church of Englewood  
Redeemer Lutheran Child Care

PUZZLE



R B C M E Z Q M O T S S F S Q F K K R E D I W K E  
N R O C W D R L P C O T G W O L L E Y B R O W N I  
B H S S V Q M H A W K S Z Y E U D Z J T P B Z N P  
S A E P T L W R Z M Q B H E F I P B O A H T Q F D  
F L V K R V E J M C T X C O C L N O R C C J M Z S  
A L A B Z C W G L L P U Y C V V R K R O T Q J U J  
Z O E B R N M U T U A J R Q E A P L D X A O S W C  
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D E W J S A S U K L G C Z G E R Q M H R E A K E W  
G E H A R V E S T X Q K E U E Y W U Z A E L H Z R  
X N I L G C S U G J K E R D J Q G R T D L L H X Q  
N Q O T I E F E X B F T I E P Q E E Y H P A H D K  
S B Z I T R E B M E T P E S W B R K Q O P B Z P Y  
J W M W Z H E Y J E S I H T M O X X T Z A T P L N  
E B Q F Q K A M L F I L J E P F L Y R S H O U U F  
D V Y N W Y Z N T L Q K V F H R W F T K J O M X K  
S Q U A S H F R K X I O Z Z H S T I N L T F P H F  
T I J S R G G L E S N H Z N R W A J C U Y Y K K U  
T F P G C N V K D A G V C X R J N E Q R S G I Q N  
V K Q P P A E A O X C I D R C O Z L A K I M N O J  
T D U D I H R B N P I U V Z U N C K D J J P R U O  
A X A F C O P F C U Q A F I D K E A C B A S L S I  
E W Y L U M Y A P W R P A Z N S K O V B U F I I D  
G O Y O G T D C S M W I L C J G E S I V Q B I D E  
E X V B W Z F D D Y G K L O H P S D L W V B A K S

ACORN  
APPLE  
AUTUMN  
BROWN  
BROWN  
CHILLY  
CIDER  
CORN  
FALL  
FOOTBALL  
HALLOWEEN  
HARVEST  
HAY  
JACKET  
LEAVES  
NOVEMBER  
OCTOBER  
ORANGE  
PIE  
PUMPKIN  
RAKE  
SCARECROW  
SCARF  
SEPTEMBER  
SPIDER  
SQUASH  
SUNFLOWER  
SWEATER  
THANKSGIVING  
TURKEY  
YELLOW

**Satan said:  
I will cause anxiety.  
I will shut down businesses,  
schools, places of worship,  
and sports events.  
I will cause economic turmoil.**

**Jesus said:  
I will bring together neighbors,  
and restore the family unit.  
I will bring dinner back  
to the kitchen table.  
I will help people slow down their lives  
and appreciate what really matters.  
I will teach my children to rely on me  
and not the world.  
I will teach my children to trust me,  
and not their money and material resources.**

Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding;  
In all your ways submit to Him and He will make your paths straight

Proverbs 3:5-6

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Englewood, FL 34224

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

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

Email: redeemerchildcare@gmail.com

### REDEEMER REPORTER

Published monthly for members, associate members and visitors of Redeemer Lutheran Church. Redeemer is a member congregation of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod. (LCMS).

### WORSHIP SERVICES:

Divine Service: 9:15 and 11:00 am

Bible Class: *temporarily postponed*

Sunday School: *temporarily postponed*

*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 (Romans 1:16).*