REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

Redeemer Lutheran Church

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APRIL, 2008

How Ya' Doin'?

It's hard to believe that an entire month has gone by since I last wrote to you. During that month a lot has happened. In a certain sense, however, not a lot has changed.

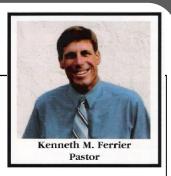
To begin, I'd like to focus on some of what has happened. I'm happy to report that the diagnostic tests of my heart, etc., have all come back with favorable results. My heartbeat is still irregular but not in a way that requires physical restrictions. I've been given a "green light" for resuming my normal exercise activities. It feels great to be able to go to the gym or hit the basketball court again.

I've also been assured that my blood pressure is normally staying in a very healthy range. I don't have any kind of hypertension that requires medication to regulate my blood pressure. That's good news for a guy who was whisked to the hospital with a blood pressure that was topping out over 200.

Sandwiched between these two layers of good news is the ailment that continues to keep me out of action. It appears that the cares and burdens of my 25 years in the ministry have accumulated in an unhealthy way in my mind and emotions. In recent years, and especially in recent months, I have been subject to numerous symptoms of stress-related psychological conditions. It finally brought me to the point where I was feeling overwhelmed by it all. The final consensus of all the physicians who have been working with me is that my trouble with my heart and blood pressure, as well as my other symptoms, are all "stress-related."

I have been receiving the appropriate medical care to try to sort out all that's going on inside my body and my mind. As you can imagine, dealing with issues of "behavioral health" can be a bit tricky ...

and a bit slow. With you, I am eagerly waiting to find out how long it will take before things will be "all better" again.



As we continue to wait together for such answers or timelines I want to sincerely thank all of you for the cards and caring letters that continue to arrive in my mailbox each day. I also thoroughly enjoyed reading...and re-reading...the giant GET WELL card which was signed by so many of you, each with your individual flair. I genuinely believe that the best medicine for what's ailing me is prayer. Please don't stop praying for me ... and especially for my family.

I also want to thank the entire Redeemer Family for standing by my family and myself in your recent decision to supplement my disability income. One of my greatest fears for several months has been that I would have to return to "active duty" even if I wasn't ready, simply to pay the bills. Your loving care has helped tremendously to alleviate that particular "stress".

So ... I say again, "A lot has happened in the past month," so much of it good. At the same time one thing that hasn't changed is the uncertainty of what the future holds for me ... and by extension for Redeemer.

That brings me to the <u>main thing</u> that hasn't changed ... and never will: God's unfailing love. During this Easter Season may the power that raised Jesus from the dead continue to raise us to new life in His holy name.

Pastor Ferrier

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

Pastor

Rev. Kenneth

Ferrier

Winter Pastor Rev. Earl Schmidt

Ofc. Secretary Pat Wilcoxen

Organist

Nancy Gunterman Lanette Schmidt

OFFICERS

President

Ron Beaber

Vice Pres.

Treasurer

Leta Stender

Secretary

Dorothy Sinowetski

BOARDS

Assimilation Laura Brooks

Property

Management

Ray Janssen

Child Care

Director

Brandi Bilhardt

Christian Ed.

Nancy Gunterman

Elders

Tim Byrne

Human Care

Marj Sterriker

Outreach

Carol Haupt

School Board

Charlie Vovcsko

Stewardship

Youth

Jim Wright

CLUBS/GUILDS

Ladies Guild

Men's Group

Bob Mortenson

Red Hat

Society

Sandra Distasio

Christian Support Group

We're Getting There

As we start the New Year, I am excited by the positive changes I see all around Redeemer. Leta Stender has accepted the Treasurer position full time and while she will have help from myself and Ray Altmann, she has quickly taken charge of the position. The



The President's Corner

Child Care has been able to finish the first two months about \$3,700 in the black and the Church is firmly with in its budget. While your Council will continue to track and report monthly expenses, we're getting there. Your Head Elder, Tim Byrne has several new Elders, Tommy Kirkland and Ray Stender.

The Child Care School Board has a President, Charlie Vovscko, and they have several projects, such as the Cross sales, among others, to help raise funds. Charlie I has taken a very realistic approach, with help of the School Board, to reorganize and update the operation of the Child Care so it will be around for many years to come. I would like to offer a special thank you to Barbara Bishop for becoming I the "go to" person that keeps the Child Care running smoothly. The School Board, working with your Council, is also planning several Child Care Sundays to I invite the children and parents of the child care to our services. Please welcome them with open arms. With the hard work of Brandy Bilhardt, her staff, and the School Board, we're getting there. Let's all support the Child Care in any way we can.

Your Council is working on some projects that have the goal of bringing the Church family closer together. Look for more on this as the year unfolds. Please continue to pray for our Pastor and our past President Joe Carlos as they continue to recover. The Elders and the Council are working on plans to be sure our pastoral needs are taken care of in this difficult time. Pastor Schmidt has stepped forward to keep things working smoothly and deserves a huge JOB WELL **DONE** from all of us. Please plan to attend the congregational meeting on March 30th as we make plans to go forward.

I would like to thank Nancy Gunterman for all she does for the church (*see help wanted to get some idea of how much we will miss her). While it will take a small army to replace Nancy and Larry and their children, we wish them only the best as they return to Illinois.

(Continued on Page 2)

We're Getting There

(Continued from Page 2)

Please pray fully consider the following openings and if asked, please pray real hard. The more hands the lighter the work. If you can't commit to serve any of these positions, or if you are willing to serve for a specific time or project, call me and we'll get things worked out. By working together, we're getting there.

HELP WANTED:

At this time we need the following positions filled:

Vice President/Administrator Stewardship

*We will need these positions filled in the near future.

Christian Education

Organist

Custodian

Submitted by Ron Beaber, President

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Your prayers and cards are a great blessing to us.

As most of you know, I've been hospitalized since December and probably will not be home for a couple of months.

Your continued prayers are greatly appreciated. We know that because of your prayers Joe is here today.

Looking forward to seeing you.

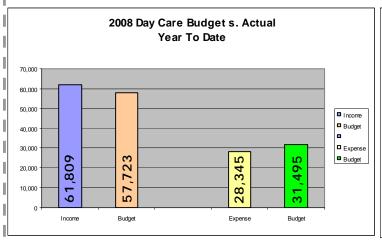
In Jesus,

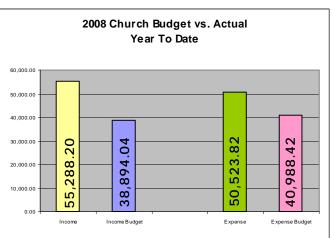
Carol & Joe Carlos



Finance

	2008 Income	2008 Expense	2008 Expense Budget								
Church											
January	26,354	21,397	17,469								
February	28,934	29,127	23,519								
Year To Date	55,288	50,524	40,988								
Day Care											
January	45,015 (Inclueds \$27,600 Gift)	9,774	15,225								
February	16,794	18,571	16,270								
Year to Date	61,809	28,345	31,495								





Service Directory/Classified Ads

Services

Beautician/Manicurist

Debbie Balogh

Purple Palace

941-475-0731

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

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

Licensed & Insured – <u>www.hooverpressure.com</u>

Hoover Pressure Cleaning ~ "The Plant Friendly People"

6" Seamless Gutters

Jim W. Gossett, Residential Construction, Licensed & Insured

| Home: (941) 698-9940; Cell: (941) 445-2074



For Sale

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

40-50 8 TRACK CARTRIDGES PLUS ADAPTOR. Best offer over \$50.00 Call Eleanor Jollay (941) 697-5905

Instamatic Camera, Brownie Camera, Slide Camera in Brown Case. Make Offer.
 Call Eleanor Jollay at (941) 697-5905.

Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for submission of articles for May is Sunday, April 20th by 12 noon.



If you have an article you would like to submit for the newsletter, either e-mail it to letastender@ewol.com or place it in the newsletter box in the church office. Articles received after April 20th will be held for the June newsletter.

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

Leta Stender

USF HERS

April 6 8:00 Chuck & Elaine Malecki Joe & Phyllis Lehner

10:30 Cecil & Sybil Grahl

Vern Speer

April 13 8:00 Chuck & Elaine Malecki

10:30 Cecil & Sybil Grahl

Tommy & Karen Kirkland

April 20 8:00

10:30 Cecil & Sybil Grahl

Shirley Zatkalik

April 27 8:00

10:30 Cecil & Sybil Grahl

Shirley Zatkalik & Paul Davis

Submitted by Ray Stender



8:00

April 6 Chuck & Elaine Malecki April 13 Ray & Dolores Altmann

April 20 Wilbur Bruce & Jerry Schreiner

April 27 Jim & K C Wright

10:30

April 6 Ed & Sandy Sita
April 13 Jim & Mary Turner
April 20 Paul & Vicky Davis
April 27 Dallas & Rusty Queck

Submitted by Pam DeGourse

April 6 Joyce Redding

Shirley Zatkalik

April 13 Anne Sanders

Dottie LaMere

April 20 Donna Kohn

Harriet Payne

April 27 Connie & Joe Friess

Submitted by Pat Wilcoxen





April 6	8:00	Courtney Thatcher
	10:30	Alex Wall

April 13 8:00 Madeline Keller
10:30 McKenna Heldenbrand

April 20 8:00 Courtney Thatcher 10:30 Anthony Bruno

April 27 8:00 Madeline Keller 10:30 Nathan Gunterman

Submitted by Pat Wilcoxen

Dear Redeemer Family,

Believe Me! Marion and I could not have done well without your prayers and caring.

We have a great Lord who knows our needs and hears our prayers. We give Him thanks and praise for His healing touch.

Yours in Christ,

Maria Talley



Memorial Garden

Thanks to craftsman, Earl Stuck, we now have a solid wood stand to hold the dedicated URN for Memorial Services. Please note the small wooden cross on the front of the stand. This cross was made by Pete Cypher.

Pete, who was the original Sexton, is now laid to rest in the Memorial Garden.

Earl not only crafted the stand but gave it as a gift to the Memorial Garden. Again, thank you Earl for this gift of love.

Pam DeGourse, Sexton



Human Care

Please remember all of our shut-ins in your prayers and visit them if possible. Check the bulletin for names and current information. Ruth Sutley has moved to River Oaks Assisted Living and Leona Morrison is at Drury Lane for oxygen rehab. Check with Marj Sterriker if you have questions about any of these special people.



Lessie Kirch is now home. She is healing and working hard on rehab. Please continue to call Marj Sterriker for Caring Network needs until Lessie is "back on her feet."

Our new Stephen Ministers, Lanette Schmidt and Dee Baird are being commissioned on Sunday, March 30th. We welcome them into the Stephen Minister family. If you are in need of a care giver, please let Pastor Schmidt or Carol Haupt know.

Our Senior Fellowship will now meet on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month, starting in April. We tried to pick a time that will not interfere with other church activities. Join us for cards, games and lunch starting at 10:00 a.m. Please sign up in the Narthex.

The Blood Mobile will be here again on April 6th. Sign up will be in the Narthex on March 30th. The Blood Mobile will be at church from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on that day.

The Care Note rack has been replenished. Be sure to check out the available titles in the Narthex rack.

Heart pillows are still available for friends or family members who are ill or hurting emotionally. They are located in a basket at the end of the long desk in the Narthex.

If you receive this newsletter by March 30th, please remember the door offering for the Horvath family fund on that Sunday. Mark has started back to school 2 days per week. Keep him in your prayers.

How about joining us on the Human Care Board? We'd love to have more caring members to address the needs of our congregation!!!

Submitted by Marj Sterriker

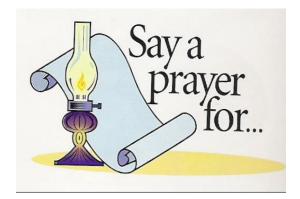
HEALING:

Members

Joe Carlos
Pastor Ferrier
Mark Horvath
Bob & Joan Johnson
Lessie Kirsch
Cliff Larsen
Tom McGrath
Leona Morrison
Ellie Ratzlaff
Katie Rudolph
David Schurr
Jim Straub
Ben Strefling
Lee Vandercook

Friends & Relatives Phil Alcantara Ella Boegeman Jim Cleary Deborah DiTommaso **Dorothy Doenges** Julia Earl Bruce Ferrier Esther Gaskill Connie Gunterman Debbie & Red Harrison Betty Hetzel Sandy Hubbard Joyce Kimple Jean Lamb Jenna Layson Gary Lehner Estella Lewis Marie Liebl Mary Lyons

Carol Lockett
Patrick McCord
Ian McDowel
Donna Muncy
Natalie Notto
Mary Elizabeth Raines
Gwyn Ramsey
Sherrie Rhoades
Audrey Slusher
Jill Taylor
Marion Talley
Denise Vincenti
Cameron Wasiluk
Valerie Washburn
Virgil Weldy



PRAYERS OF COMFORT for the family of Georgia and Tom Lang and family whose 22 year old grandson Jeff Topczewski was found dead at home in Michigan.

PRAYERS OF COMFORT for Tim Byrne and family whose sister-in-law Margie Kipp, who was 64, was called to her eternal home while shoveling snow in Michigan.

PRAYERS OF COMFORT for Sybil Grahl and family whose mother Doris Boorhies of Westland, Michigan was called to her eternal home unexpectedly.



MILITARY PERSONNEL & FAMILIES

Herb Bohm Gloria Carlson Ruth Jansch Ruth Sutley

Ladies Guild—Lutheran Women In Mssion

Women of Redeemer ----- Mark your calendars ----- April 2 ----- Fellowship Hall ----- Everyone welcome ----- the annual Guild Salad Luncheon at 12 Noon. Ummmmm good ----- get ready to loosen those belts! Bring a small salad, wear your Name Tag, and enjoy the fabulous variety. Tune up your vocal chords ----- everything is ready ----- all we need is YOU to join in the sing-a-long with Loretta Grobe and her shiny accordion. No reservations needed!



Mite offerings will be gathered and dedicated. Our mites help fund the National Mission Grant Goal of \$1.7 million. The Inner-City Children's Ministry -- Mpls/St. Paul \$50,000 grant supports Partners lin Mission as they help inner-city children to learn of Jesus and His saving grace through eleven area programs that provide Bibles, transportation, Sunday school materials, clothing, food and school supplies. The large MITE BOX will be in the Narthex April 6th. Thanks for your well-filled MITE boxes of coins, paper money or checks payable to LWML Missions.

Mission Is Our Service for the Child Care.

Are you a TEAM player for Redeemer? There still is time to join the TEAM (<u>Together Everyone Accomplishes More</u>) and be of Service to our Child Care. Donations of Trash Bags (30gal and 13gal sizes) Non-scented Baby Wipes (we need lots) Pump Foam Hand Soap (dispensers & refills at Target or WalMart) and animal, goldfish, or graham crackers are needed on April 6 - 13 - 20 and then NO MORE until 2009. A thank you letter has been sent to Lazy River's Hibiscus Hatties Red Hats for their generous donations to our Child Care. Thank You, Carolyn Plesner, for telling your group about our Mission Service Ingathering!

Submitted by Vicky Davis

A sincere thank you to Pastor Schmidt, Pastor Ferrier, and our church family at Redeemer for all of your prayers, cards, and phone calls in the recent loss of our grandson, Jeff Topczewski.



Even though we know that he is with our Lord, it is still so very hard to accept the loss of one so young.

Your care and concern were such a comfort to us at this difficult time. Thank you again and...

God Bless You All, Tom and Georgia Lang

Ladies Guild Style Show— "A Touch of Paris"



Ladies Guild





The Monday Morning Quilters, under the guidance of Georgia Lang, worked as a TEAM (Together Everyone Accomplishes More) to cut, sew, and assemble Tote Bags for our Child Care. Pat Wilcoxen imprinted a picture of the building and telephone number on each Tote. These were presented to director, Brandi Bilhardt, at our last Guild meeting. Daily the older children proudly carry their papers home in these bags.

Submitted by Vicky Davis



It's that time of year again when the Ladies Guild will have their last meeting until October. We will meet April 2nd at 12 noon, starting with a luncheon. All ladies are to bring a salad to share—the Exec. Board will provide the dessert. Join us for fun, fellowship, good food and share the love of our Lord. All ladies of Redeemer are invited—bring a friend.

We will be electing new officers for the coming year. Think and pray about those special women who are organized and able to lead this group.

God bless you all, and have a happy, safe, and healthy summer.

Submitted by Linda Rogers

Redeemer Lutheran Child Care & After-School

Recipe/ Snack I dea Strawberry Nilla Nibbles

You will need:

4 Vanilla wafers

2tbsp cool whip lite topping

2 strawberries, halved

Place peanut butter evenly into hallow part of celery sticks.

Top each with 1 ½ tsp.
of whipped topping and 1
strawberry half.

Serve immediately

Birthdays

Kaley V. 4/6 4/9 Jenna R.J. 4/13 Ms Erin 4/14 Ms Brandy 4/18 Ryder 4/21 Eythan S. 4/24 Michelle 4/25 Marissa 4/27



4/27

Mrs Kris

Fundraisers

Pizza Kits- \$510 Crosses- \$350



Child care will be planning a Hop-A-Thon fundraiser in April. We will give specific details when we know.

Thank You's

We have had an overwhelming amount of supplies donated over the past month! The girls at child care really can not thank you all enough for your wonderful contribution, and support.

Submitted by Brandi Bilhardt



DREACH * snack *

No matter our age, we all have opportunities to "preach" by how we live. And everyone can tell about God and his love. Use this activity to raise money for your church's mission efforts.

What you need:

- Large bowl
- Quart- or snack-size zippered baggies
- Snacks that spell PREACH Suggestions include:
 - **P** = Pretzels
 - R = Raisins
 - **E** = Extra (add extra of your favorite snack)
 - \mathbf{A} = Almonds
 - C = Chex cereal
 - **H** = Honey Nut Cheerios
- 8.5" x 5.5" paper (one sheet for each bag made)
- Crayons or markers
- Stapler
- Stickers

What you do:

- 1. Mix all your "PREACH" ingredients in a bowl.
- 2. Fill baggies with the snacks.
- Fold your paper in half. On one side, write the ingredient acrostic and a Bible verse. For example: "Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation" (Mark 16:15, NIV).
- On the other side, write a thank you to the snack's purchaser and mention which activity it's supporting.
- 5. Staple the paper to the baggie.
- 6. Decorate baggies with stickers.
- 7. With adult help, price the baggies and decide when and how to sell them. Afterward, deliver earnings to the appropriate people.



E:X'I'RA!E:X'I'RA! READ ALL ABOUT IT!

Many people read their local newspapers, but Jesus says we should read and share God's Word daily! Below, hidden among the words READ YOUR BIBLE, is a message from Jesus recorded in Mark 1:15, NIV. Circle those words and write them on the lines below. (For extra fun, count how many times the word "Bible" appears in the article!)

LOCAL EDITION

BIBLE TIMES

TODAY

GOOD NEWS!

READ YOUR BIBLE THE READ YOUR BIBLE READ YOUR BIBLE TIME HAS READ YOUR BIBLE THE



READ YOUR BIBLE READ YOUR BIBLE READ YOUR BIBLE READ YOUR BIBLE KINGDOM READ YOUR BIBLE READ YOUR BIBLE READ YOUR BIBLE OF READ YOUR BIBLE REA

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MARK 1:15, NIV

good news!" Bible: 48 times

177

Answers: "The time has come The kingdom of God is near. Repent and believe the

Outreach

"Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." Matthew 28:19



EASTER was a wonderful, joyous celebration of our Lord's resurrection. Because he lives, we live. All our wonderful blessings of faith, hope, joy, peace, forgiveness, and eternal life derive from this act of love from God the Father and from God the Son.

After the resurrection, and before Jesus was taken up into heaven, he gave us the Great Commission, quoted above: "go and make disciples of all nations." Let us all share our great Easter joy with our friends and acquaintances!

The <u>Sharing Jesus Workshop</u> on Saturday, March 1, was well-attended. At the Workshop we learned about how to tell His story, our stories, and what Jesus means to us, as well as practical how-to's from Christian brothers and sisters experienced in witnessing for Jesus. From the comments, it seems the format was quite helpful to the participants. We will be having another workshop later in the year. If you missed the one last month, please try to attend the next one.

Friendship Sunday

We had a good turnout for our Friendship Sunday celebration on Sunday, March 9. Our guest pastor was very impressed by the number of "friends" who stood to be recognized, especially for the first such event held at Redeemer. Thank you all for bringing someone to share our worship. Hopefully they will want to return again. Continue to pray for them, and continue to invite friends, relatives, acquaintances. Let's make every Sunday FRIENDSHIP SUNDAY.

Chamber of Commerce Expo

Redeemer participated in the Englewood Chamber of Commerce Expo at the Englewood Sports Complex on March 7 and 8 (Friday and Saturday). We had a display telling about our church activities and about our Child Care, including the video made last year. We passed out literature, pencils, and talked to people about Redeemer. Prayerfully, some of the people we talked to will visit Redeemer. Be on the look out for these new "friends" also to make them feel welcome.

Placida Seafood Festival

We also had a booth at the Placida Seafood Festival on March 15. This venue was not as successful. There were not as many contacts made, but even if one comes it will be worth our effort.

(Continued on Page 16)

Outreach

(Continued From Page 15)

Magnetic Car Signs

We still have a supply of magnetic signs for your cars. We'd like to see signs on every car in our parking lot. This is a very good way to advertise. We've heard stories already of people seeing them and being led to Redeemer. Only \$5.00 in the Narthex. We also have LCMS logo cross pins for \$2.00. They are good conversation starters.

Nametags

Please remember to wear your nametags to church and other fellowship functions. It will help us identify visitors so that we can warmly welcome them. If you see someone without a regular burgundy name tag, and you don't recognize them, please talk with them and get to know them. We'd like our visitors to return, and hopefully become members at some later time.

Submitted by Carol Haupt

Redeemer Child Care Monthly Review

- Enrollment stands at 53 children.
- 2008 approved Budget holding
- Staff Handbook finished and approved in March.
- Advertising and marketing plans underway for enrollment
- Thanks to Henry Kruger for making the Crosses. All sold quickly.
- Thanks to all who purchased "pizza kits". Over \$500 was raised that will be used for advertising and publicity.
- Thanks to Ladies Guild for organizing "supply" donations as one of their missions.



Daycare News

You Can Help!

Volunteer to be a Congregational Reader for children Call Brandy directly – 475-2631, mornings only Help with extra supplies as listed

Submitted by Barbara Bishop

Friendship Sunday









Ushers

Attention Ushers:

It is important for ushers who sign up for the up-coming months to sign the sheet on the wall in the Narthex prior to the newsletter deadline so that we can list the names in the newsletter.

As of this printing we are still in need of ushers for April—(see schedule on page 6).

If you have never ushered and would like to, call Ray Stender at (941) 628-3939.

Submitted by Ray Stender



Youth News

The youth put on a very successful spaghetti dinner on February 15th. There was a good turn out from our con-



Our annual Easter egg hunt went off without a hitch. Praise the Lord. Great participation from our members' children and the child care children. All had a great time.

Our youth participated in ushering on Sunday, March 30th. They also had the coffee hour on that date.

Looking forward to the beach party in May.

Submitted by Jim Wright

Ladies Guild—Lutheran Women in Mssion

2008 Sarasota Circuit Convocation

Sunday, April 13, 2008

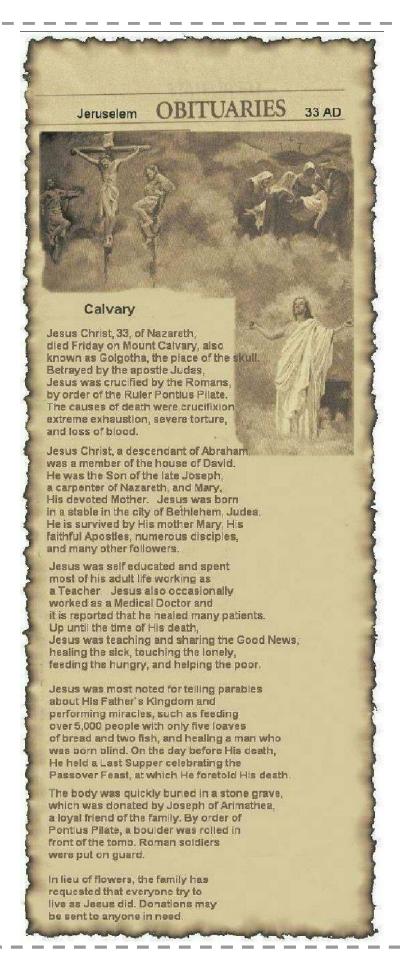
2:30-7:15

Lakeside Lutheran Church 2401 S. Tamiami Trail, Venice, FL



A gathering of leaders and members for **Encouragement and training**

Supper will be provided



Chamber of Commerce Expo









Child Care Party

