



January 2020



**Do You Have 2020 Vision?**

Are your eyes feeling their age? Mine are. My father told me many years ago that I would experience noticeable changes in my vision by the age of 40. As each year passes, I find my vision deteriorating. My arms are no longer long enough for me to see clearly. This, of course, is not strange to us who deal with such a malady. The good news is that for most of our vision problems, eye-care specialists are able to provide some corrective surgery or even prevent further visionary troubles.

Let me ask you this: Is 20/20 vision considered perfect vision? Do you have 20/20 vision? Did you know 20/20 vision is a term used to express normal visual sharpness? The sharpness or clarity of vision is measured at a distance of 20 feet. For example, if you have 20/20 vision, you can see clearly at 20 feet what should normally be seen at that distance. If you have 20/100 vision, it means that you must be as close as 20 feet to see what a person with normal vision can see at 100 feet.

Having 20/20 vision does not necessarily mean you have perfect vision. 20/20 vision only indicates the sharpness or clarity of vision at a distance. Other important vision skills, including peripheral awareness or side vision, eye coordination, depth perception, focusing ability and color vision, contribute to your overall visual ability.

Some people can see well at a distance but are unable to bring nearer objects into focus. This condition can be caused by hyperopia (farsightedness) or presbyopia (loss of focusing ability). Others can see items that are close but cannot see those far away. This condition may be caused by myopia (nearsightedness).

A comprehensive eye examination by a doctor of optometry can diagnose what is affecting your ability to see well. In most cases, your optometrist can prescribe glasses, contact lenses or a vision therapy program that will help improve your vision. If the reduced vision is due to an eye disease, you may be prescribed ocular medication or another treatment. The bottom line is this: if you are experiencing vision inconsistencies, you need to seek a qualified optometrist.

You might be asking yourself, “Why all this talk about vision? Is the pastor trying to tell me something?” No not at all. However, it is a new year, right? It’s 2020! Happy New Year!! And so, with that said do you have a vision for Redeemer Lutheran Church in 2020? Have you considered any forethought of what might lay ahead for the church in this new year? I’m not asking for a prophecy or revelation regarding the things unknown to man. However, I am asking you to consider a forecast or a prediction about the financial woes of our church.

Now, let us first understand that a forecast or prediction is usually based upon past information

*(Continued on page 2)*

Inside this issue

- Pastors Message..... 1-3
- Yard Sale.....3
- Prop Appreciation .....3
- LCEF.....4
- Classified .....4
- Choir .....4
- Stewardship .....5
- Youth Group .....5
- Bible Study..... 6-7
- Treasurer’s Report.....7
- Prayers .....8
- Schedules .....9
- School & Child Care ..... 10-11
- Puzzle..... 12
- Inspiration ..... 13

or trends, experience and knowledge. A meteorologist can forecast the weather based upon their experience and information received from weather related instruments. We can make a prediction about who's going to win the Super Bowl based on a team's performance history. And from experience, it won't be the Vikings. (smile)

For a handful of years now, Redeemer has been running at a deficit. Each month, with the Voters' approval, we would draw funds needed from an account – at first from Capital Reserve, but now the Wind & Hail account. Well, as revealed in our October Voters' Meeting and discussed at a December town hall meeting, each of those accounts have been all but depleted. The question was presented to the voters, "What are we going to do the next time we can't pay our bills?"

Also, over the last handful of years, the Church Council has done all they possibly could to cut as much as possible from the budget. Each year would end with a deficit – expenses always exceeding the income. This is not a good trend. It makes things easy to predict or forecast.

Financially, 2020 doesn't pose new challenges for us but the same ones. So, what are we going to do? I ask this question in a way not to say, "This is your church, so what are you going to do about it?" No! Let me be clear and let each one of us understand. This local congregation we know as Redeemer Lutheran Church belongs not to you and me, but it belongs to the Lord Jesus Christ. The Church is established in His name. He is the Head of the Church; we are the body. We are the recipients of His grace. He has called us out of darkness and into His marvelous light. He grafted us into Himself through the water and the Word in Holy Baptism. By His grace we are made members of His Church; we are the servants called to work in His vineyard; we are given the responsibility to manage what belongs to Him – His Church, our lives, and our possessions.

What is your vision for Redeemer in 2020?

It was discussed at the December town hall that if the members and associate members of Redeemer would commit to include an additional \$8 above

*(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

Christian Ed.

Human Care Lisa Kress

Outreach

Assimilation Anne Varone

School Board

Stewardship

Youth Alan Duburg

Financial Secretary Mindy Duncan

Property Mgmt. Bob Varone

### GROUPS/GUILDS

Ladies Guild Sally Zierdt

Men's Group

Altar Guild

Coffee Hour

what they usually give in their weekly offering, we would meet or exceed the needs of the 2020 budget. Well, that's just great news, isn't it? All we need to do is contribute \$8 more than what we already contribute and our budget deficit turns into a balanced budget.

The problem is many members and associate members already give as much as they possibly can based upon their fixed or shrinking income. Whether you are retired or working, most are operating on a fixed income. The real problem is that the cost of living continues the rise; the cost of doing business continues to rise; property insurance, taxes, etc. continue to rise.

For a number of months now, the weekly giving Redeemer receives from you has increased ever so slightly. That's a trend we all like to hear about. And yet, can your prediction or forecast for Redeemer in 2020 become more positive if we all prayerfully consider making an additional

yet small \$8 sacrifice each time we come to worship and receive the Lord's priceless gifts in the forgiveness of sins, life on earth, and eternal salvation with Him in heaven?

What is your vision for Redeemer in 2020? If your vision is deteriorating or even a bit blurred, perhaps a trip to see a qualified doctor is in order. My humble advice is to direct you to the One and Only Physician who has a standing appointment for you every Sunday morning – and other festival days – at Redeemer Lutheran Church. No need to call ahead of time, He knows, even before you arrive, that you are coming to see Him. Upon examination, He pronounces you clean, washed away of all the issues that cause blurred vision and a deterioration of your sight. He sees you as He has called you: His beloved, forgiven child.

In the Service of Christ Jesus,  
Pastor Jim Kress

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**Yard Sale and Bake Sale:** Our annual Yard & Bake Sale will be held on Friday and Saturday, January 24 & 25, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. each day. We will be accepting items for the sale beginning on Wednesday, January 22 and setting up on Thursday, January 23. Please NO televisions, computers, or printers!



If you need someone to pick up your items for the sale, please call: Alan Duburg, 309-973-6464 or Tom Murdock, 612-715-2361.

We need donations of gently used items and freshly baked goods. Volunteers are needed for setting up and cleaning up, and cashiers are needed to help during the Sale. See Neva Aldene for more information if you can volunteer and support this year's Sale.

## 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, January 18th at 8:00 am.**





## A Brief History of Lutheran Church Extension Fund

June 15, 2018, marked the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF) as the official financial partner of The Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod (LCMS). However, the idea of church extension goes back even further.

LCEF is blessed to be part of this rich and extraordinary journey; one that began in 1902 with a humble donation by a handful of congregations to help a church build a school. From there it blossomed into a strong and ample investment asset portfolio. This allows us to support LCMS congregations, offices, individuals, Recognized Service Organizations, schools, universities and seminaries today and far into the future.

To God be all the glory! For it is by His generous and loving hand that LCEF has grown and flourished over the years. In celebration of our 40th anniversary, we invite you to take a little journey through [our history](#).

As the new year and decade begins, please prayerfully consider opening an account with this wonderful organization!

Questions? Please feel free to contact me at 603-209-0733 or [rob.tilton1016@gmail.com](mailto:rob.tilton1016@gmail.com).

Yours in Christ,  
Rob Tilton  
LCEF Congregational Advocate



AJ's Mobile Wash—Heated Pressure/Steam Cleaning  
Free estimates. No Harsh chemicals. Licensed & Insured  
Call: Amber ~ (828) 371-0228 or Jason ~ (828) 226-8762

CK Clean, LLC. "Dust bunnies fear us."  
Licensed & Insured residential cleaning service  
Kristine Baltimore 941.681.6514  
ckcleanfl@gmail.com



## Choir

Calling all voices! If you want to rejoice on Easter, come join the choir. Contact Collins Sita or come on Wednesdays at 6:00 pm and sing to your Risen King.



Our God is a God who works through means. He can and has worked immediately without agency, as the Bible testifies, but primarily, on the whole and for the most part, our God works through means. He does this not only for all of our earthly needs but also for all of our spiritual needs. And He does this for our benefit.

He provides for all our needs of this body and life through means. He gives us fathers and mothers to care for us when we are young. Through them, God provides house and home, food and clothing, education and training in the arts and work of this world.

He gives us good government to protect us from harm and danger; He gives us faithful neighbors and good friends to help in times of need and lack. He gives us employers who trade our work for income so that we may acquire the needs of the body. He gives us brains and brawn so that we will have something to trade with those employers for that needed income. This work, which we are able to do only because of what God has provided to us, redounds to the benefit of others. And so, the cycle of God giving through means continues.

He provides for all our needs of our souls. He sent His Son into the flesh to be our Savior. In that body, our Lord Jesus Christ lived the life that God demands of us all – a life we have failed to live because of our sins – and, in that body, He made payment for those sins on the cross, once and for all.

God delivers this forgiveness through the means of His Word and Sacraments. He calls pastors to proclaim, in His stead and by His command, that our sins are forgiven for Jesus' sake. Through these same pastors, God Himself claims us as His own in Holy Baptism, placing His own name on us in water and Word, igniting faith by the gift of the Holy Spirit. And He gives us His life-giving body and blood to nourish us in this same faith until the end. Our God is a God who works through means.

This is true also of stewardship. This is what St. Paul wrote in Philippians:

*"I have received full payment, and more. I am well supplied, having received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent, a fragrant offering, a sacrifice acceptable and pleasing to God. And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus"* (Phil. 4:18–19).

The gift St. Paul received from the Philippian church is a fragrant offering, a sacrifice acceptable and pleasing to God. They gave to God. God provided for St. Paul through the Philippians. And the God who loves both Paul and the Philippians will supply their every need according to the riches in Christ Jesus. Our God is a God who works through means.

"For all the promises of God find their Yes in [Jesus Christ]," St. Paul tells us in 2 Cor. 1:20. This is true also of you. Trust in the God who provides for all that we need in body and soul through means. And not only will you find His "yes" to you, but others will find it, too, through you. *"But as you excel in everything – in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in all earnestness, and in our love for you – see that you excel in this act of grace also"* (2 Cor. 8:7).



On January 4th the youth group will be hosting a bon fire at the church . Please come and join in the fun. There will be hotdogs, marshmallows, coffee , s'mores & hot chocolate. Bring friends to enjoy with us . Don't forget your lawn chairs . In the morning the youth group will be planting plants around the Redeemer entrances. See you there.

## WEDNESDAY MORNING *TABLE TALK* Come Join Us on Wednesdays at 10:15 AM

As a wedding gift to his favorite minister and renowned professor, Frederick the Wise turned over the keys to the stately Black Cloister, the former Augustinian monastery of Wittenberg, to Martin Luther. This became home for Luther and his family. He and Katie raised their children there, he would teach his students there, and people would come and stay there, including traveling dignitaries, theologians, and the faculty of the University of Wittenberg.

Luther had a very large dinner table, and it was always full of his family and students and faculty. Luther was never at a loss for words, and he would hold court at his table. Eventually, the students realized that what Luther was saying was noteworthy and they began to write it all down. At one point, Katie joked that they should charge tuition for these meals because of all the teaching that Dr. Martin carried on over the dinner table.



Those dinner conversations were collected as a unique piece of literature known as *Table Talk*. It gives us some great insight into Luther and how he was truly a theologian of the people. He really had no interest in the ivory towers of academia. He was interested in the people of God and in bringing the Word of God to bear on people's lives, and we see this clearly in *Table Talk*.

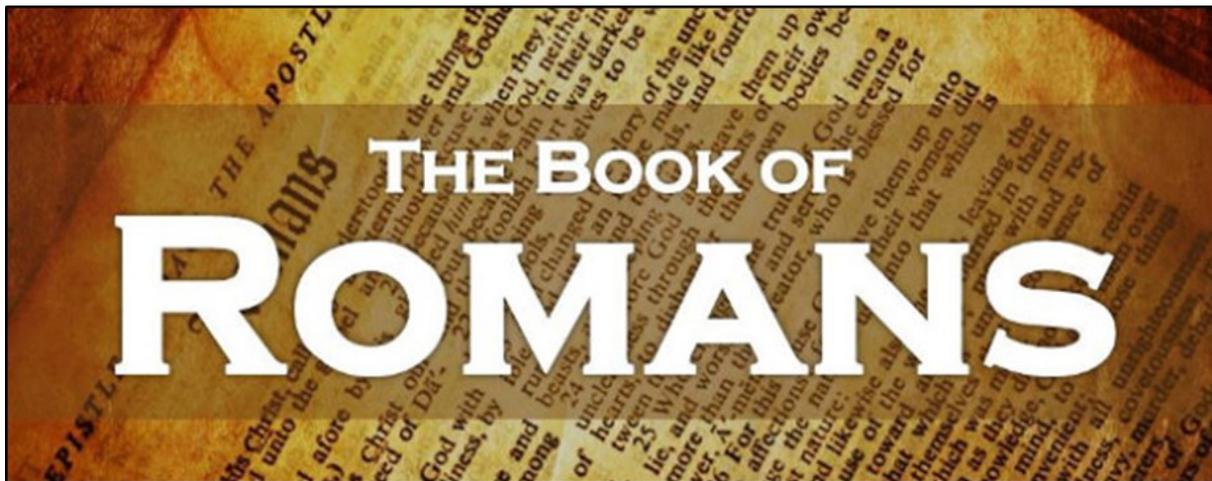
As you can imagine, the *Table Talk* writings range over a number of issues. They show Luther's humor, they show his intensity, and above all they reveal his theology. Some of them are just interesting in terms of giving us insight into Luther. In one he says, "Thus the Italians made an arch to please the emperor. On one side was written, 'Utrecht planted,' because it was the birthplace of Adrian. On the other side was inscribed, 'Louvain watered,' because Adrian studied there. At the top was written, 'The Emperor gave the growth,' because he had made him Pope." And Luther says, "Then a bad boy came along and scribbled on the bottom of the arch, 'Here God did nothing.'" There's a lot of truth in that sarcasm of Luther as there is in much of *Table Talk*.

In a number of these *Table Talk* conversations we see Luther interacting with his family. He even engages the family dog—Tölpel was his name, which means "clumsy" or "tipsy" in German—and at one point he says, "Look at this dog," and holds out a treat, and the dog is firmly and fully fixated on that treat. And Luther says, "Ah, if only we were as fixated on God's promises and as committed to God's promises as Tölpel is to that treat." In a lot of these conversations we see Luther's theology coming through. We see especially how Luther always wants to point our eyes to Christ. At one point he says, "Satan often said to me, 'What if you are teaching by which you have overthrown the Pope, the Mass, and the monks should be false?' He often assailed me in such a way as to make me break out in a sweat. Finally I answered, 'Go and speak with my God who commanded us to listen to this Christ. Christ must do everything.'"

On Wednesday morning, in the Church narthex, we 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 anything about everything. 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.

**SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS IS FOR EVERYONE!**

In Paul’s Epistle to the Romans, he writes to Christians he has not yet met but intends to visit soon. Since he has not preached in Rome, he writes a full and rich account of God’s plan of salvation through faith in His Son and encourages the Romans to live as Christians in this sinful world. Martin Luther thought so highly of this letter he recommended that all Christians memorize the whole book. Although that is not the goal of our Sunday Morning Bible Class, we will nevertheless go through every chapter and verse in order to experience the richness of this impressive letter. There are so many “golden nuggets” to accumulate from this single New Testament book. Don’t be shy, be intrigued. Come join in on the study Sunday mornings following Divine Serve and a quick stop at the coffee table.



**Treasurer's Report**

*Treasurer's November 30, 2019*

	<u>ACTUAL</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>OVER/UNDER</u>
INCOME	14,262	14,554	(292)
<u>EXPENSES</u>	<u>16,618</u>	<u>18,223</u>	(1,605)
<b>+/-</b>	<b>(2,356)</b>	<b>(3,669)</b>	
<b>YEAR TO DATE</b>			
INCOME	158,068	160,014	(1,946)
<u>EXPENSES</u>	<u>185,773</u>	<u>200,430</u>	(14,657)
<b>+/-</b>	<b>(27,705)</b>	<b>(40,416)</b>	



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

## PRAYERS

**SHUT-INS:** Judy Clasen, Susan Jahns, and Rita Kaufman.

**HEALING for Members:** Neva Aldene, Carl Bertka, Paul & June Brown, Jean Cote, Kathryn Demma, Ed & Jan DeTrow, Charlie & Pat Finkenbine, Mike & Judy Guastella, Bud & Jane Harty, Chuck Malecki, Angela Mannato, Ken Mielke, Lillian Miles, Glenn Mossner, Mariana Murray, Bob Payne, Tom & Sue Poyer, Ron Tandy, Dorothy Sinowetski, Russ & Carol Spooner, Caitlin Tilton, Bob Varone, Robert Vickey, Sally Zierdt, and Artie Zipp

**FRIENDS & RELATIVES:** Michelle Bernard, Grace Blum, Gerry Borwick, Bill Bowers, Jr., Mary Brissette, Dennis Burchell, Georgia Bush, Diane Carr, Sally Chambers, Esther Clapham, Bobbett Clark, Donna Connors, Lisa Copeman, Martin Cressman, Molly Criely, Renee Dempsey, Dale & Trudy DesJardins, Irene DiTommaso, Barb Dumeah, Bruce Everson, Donna Fancher, Darla Finkenbine, Gerald and Mary Fischer, Marla Flores, Manual Galan, Liam Garland, Barbara George, Sandra Gettings, Nancy Gleis, Mary Ann Guilfoyle, Shelley Roedel Gutz, Mikayla Hacksunda & her newborn baby girl, Lily, Marlene Hagen, Jake Harper, Debbie Harrison, Larry Hladun, Dennis Hegarty, Claudette Hendershot, Glory Herget, John Hill, Rick Hill, Robin Hincman, Roger Hinzmann, David Hirtle, Larry Hladun, 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, Barb Kern, Elizabeth Lynn Klopfenstein, Nancy Lake, Stacey Lampert, Rev. Rusty Leavitt, friends & family of Gary Letizia, Ray Likowski, Janet Lixey, Victoria Malato and her unborn child, Joe Manson, Candace McGowan, Barbara Mier, Pete Mogg, Mike Morrissey, Rev. Herbert Mueller, Ron Mullins, Esther Murphy, Jean Nesbitt, Riley Emilia Paquette, Charles Pentecost Jr., Robin Potts, John Purdy, Mary Raines, Rev. Ronald Rock, Paul Rollo, Sandra Scheel, Ed Sheahan, Nancy Sly, Don Stewart, Charles Tolley, George Vespa, Jim & Judy Wahl, Steven Walker, Christy Wallace, Helen Weishaar, Donna Weston, Gordan Winkel, Wava Zeitlow, and Martha Zimpfer

**Military Personnel:** Mark Baranowsky, Michael Broughton, Joseph Garay, Thomas Francis Stynes II, 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!**



## ELDER & COMMUNION ASSISTANT SCHEDULE

Date	Elder & Reader	Communion Asst
<b>Sun, Jan 5th</b>	Collins Sita	Dave Giroux
<b>Sun, Jan 12th</b>	Rob Tilton	Bob Varone
<b>Sun, Jan 19th</b>	Collins Sita	Steve Horvath
<b>Sun, Jan 26th</b>	Mike Nagel	Paul Brown

## Acolyte

Gospel Bearer & Crucifier

Date	Crucifier	Gospel Bearer	Acolyte
<b>Jan 5th</b>	Kamrie Evanicki	Kyleigh Evanicki	Rylie Giroux
<b>Jan 12th</b>	Mykalina Sabol	Bella Fisher	Braeden Dolphin
<b>Jan 19th</b>	Mackenzie McDowall	Jayden Bishop	Therin McDowall
<b>Jan 26th</b>	John Miller	Ariana Miller	Kylee Payne

## ALTAR GUILD SCHEDULE



Date	Set-Up	Clean-Up
<b>Sun, Jan 5th</b>	Bob Varone	Lisa Kress
<b>Sun, Jan 12th</b>	Mindy Duncan	Carolyn Francis/ Janet Lemesis
<b>Sun, Jan 19th</b>	Lisa Kress	Sandi Libke
<b>Sun, Jan 26th</b>	Bob Varone	Joyce Schneider/ Jean Cote

***The deadline for the February Newsletter is January 21st.  
Please have all your submissions sent to patchas123@gmail.com  
OR drop them off at the church office by the date indicated above. Thank You!***

## REDEEMER SCHOOL

Recently I went to Walmart to buy a Christmas card for a friend. I'm not really one that buys cards a lot so it has been a while. The Christmas card selection at Walmart really offended me. I just wanted to wish my friend Merry Christmas. I could not find a card that acknowledged that Jesus is the reason for Christmas. It took me a good ten minutes to find one. Walmart had one card that mentioned that Jesus is the reason that we get to celebrate Christmas. It kind of hurt my heart that this is what our society has come to. I am so thankful for a church, friends, and a school that take the time to honor Christ. It reminded me how blessed I am and how blessed our students are. We get to celebrate the birth of the most important person to ever live. We get to sing and worship the Savior of the world. We get to share this love and joy with our family and friends. We are truly blessed.

Our students and families spent a night this month spending time together and making gingerbread houses. The houses were entered into a contest in the UTC mall. We made two houses. K-1 made a house and 2-3 made a house. It was a lot of fun. Parents of our school are so helpful and involved. It makes it so nice for our students. We are like a big family that looks out for the well-being of all of our kids. We did not win the contest but we sure had fun doing it.



This month we also had a Parents Night Out as a school fundraiser. Parents and daycare parents were able to drop their children off for a fun Friday evening. We did Christmas crafts, had pizza for dinner, played games with the kids, baked and decorated Christmas cookies, watched a movie, and more. It was a very fun night together! We were able to raise nearly \$300 to help with the cost of mulch for our playground.

The Christmas program turned out so wonderful. Thank you Mrs. Caitlin for working so hard with the kids. They loved those hymns so much that they still sing them. Our Girl Scout troop went caroling and the whole neighborhood was able to hear "Angels from the Realms of Glory." The neighbors were so touched by the love they have for our Savior. They are learning how to serve God and show His love to others. What a great mission field we have.

Happy New Year!





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

SPARKLERS      FIREWORKS      MIDNIGHT      COUNTDOWN  
CONFETTI      PARTY      RESOLUTIONS      CELEBRATE  
HAPPY NEW YEAR      KISS      TOAST      BALL

# Prayer

for the New Year

Grant me the strength from day to day  
To bear what burdens come my way.  
Grant me throughout this bright New Year  
More to endure and less to fear.  
Help me live that I may be  
From spite and petty malice free.  
Let me not bitterly complain  
When cherished hopes of mine prove vain,  
Or spoil with deeds of hate and rage  
Some fair tomorrow's spotless page.  
Lord, as the days shall come and go  
In courage let me stronger grow.

Lord, as the New Year dawns today  
Help me to put my faults away.  
Let me be big in little things;  
Grant me the joy which friendship brings.  
Keep me from selfishness and spite;  
Let me be wise in what is right.  
A happy New Year! Grand that I  
May bring no tear to any eye.  
When this New Year in time shall end  
Let it be said I've played the friend,  
Have lived and loved and labored here,  
And made of it a happy year.

Edgar A. Guest

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH,  
SCHOOL & CHILD CARE  
6970 Mineola Rd.  
Englewood, FL 34224

ADDRESS SERVICE  
REQUESTED - OPTION 1



REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH,  
SCHOOL & CHILD CARE  
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

Published monthly for members, Associate Members and Visitors of Redeemer Lutheran Church, a member congregation of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod.

WORSHIP SERVICES:

Divine Service: 9:15 AM  
Bible Class: 10:30 AM  
Sunday School: 10:30 AM

*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).*