



WOULD YOU SAY I AM AN OPTIMIST OR A PESSIMIST?

What's the difference? Well, an optimist is one who expects a favorable outcome or is relying on a hopeful outlook. A pessimist is one who regularly sees or anticipates the worst or is resolved to be discontent.

In my Newsletter Article last month, I was very optimistic in believing – truly believing – that in revealing the truth regarding church attendance and our financial circumstances would result in a more positive, optimistic response. I now wonder if readers saw my message as a pessimistic complainer.

I suppose there are those who would view that I must be a pessimist. They read my complaint and presume that is all that I do – complain – and that my less than positive perspective sees everything as bad. On a bad day, perhaps they are correct in their assessment. But, I had every hope that last month's message would reveal the light to everyone and thus move all of

us to change.

I must be honest with you. My true pessimism is contained in the response of the reader, and that includes me. I am a sinner, to be sure.

You're all familiar with the scripture passage: "For with men it is impossible but with God all things are possible" (Matthew 19:26). If believing that is optimism, then I am an optimist. While I truly believe that the challenges facing Christians are many and great, I am also mindful of the promise that, "Greater is He who is in you than he who is in the world" (1 John 4:4).

This does not mean that God has some plan hidden in our messes that He is bringing to pass. What it does mean is that God's Church is His and He will not abandon her nor will He neglect her. We daily and regretfully present to Him our messes and our failures but He is not bound by them or confined by them. Though we have confused our calling, God is

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*W*HEN WE PUT
OUR PROBLEMS IN
GOD'S HANDS,
HE PUTS HIS PEACE IN
OUR HEARTS.

STEWARDSHIP

What is most striking about the rich man and Lazarus is not their differences but their similarities (Luke 16:19–31). Both men die because both men are sinners, and the wages of sin is death. Both men are beggars, for all men are beggars. But, here is where the most striking difference between them takes shape. Lazarus knows it and lives it. The rich man, however, does not.

Lazarus was a beggar in thought, word, and deed. But, he was God's beggar. He relied upon God for all that he had and all that he was. He looked to God for all things, in good times and in bad. He went to God in all trouble, sought Him for all help, and trusted in His Word and promises to provide for all that he needed for this life and the next. This is, after all, what his name means: God is my help.

The rich man, too, was a beggar. But he didn't realize it. His status, his wealth, his clothing and his food all came from God's gracious hand. But the rich man didn't recognize it. He thought he had earned it, and that he deserved it. And thus, his trust is not in God, who by His Word and promise gives it, but rather in himself, in what he has done, and in what he has.

And so it is that when death comes to Lazarus and the rich man—as it does for all of us because we have all sinned, and death is no respecter of persons—Lazarus is carried by the holy angels to Abraham's side; while the rich man is in torment in hell. The rich man forgot God. He despised being a beggar, and thus, despised Lazarus. He despised God and His Word, and refused to have mercy on those whom God placed at his doorstep.

Now, the tables were turned. What the rich man didn't realize or recognize on earth, he now lived out in torment in hell. He knew what it was to beg. But he still didn't see himself as a beggar of God. He still didn't look to His Father in heaven for all good and help in

every time of need. He instead appealed to His status as a descendant of Abraham, calling out Father Abraham and not "Abba, Father" (Gal 4:6; Rom 8:15).

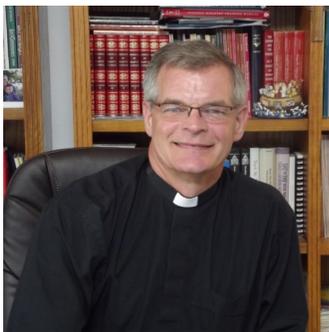
We are all beggars. We brought nothing into this world and we will take nothing out of it (1 Tim 6:7). Everything we have and everything we are comes from God's fatherly divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in us, for He gives everything to us by grace. Thus, we are to love one another and be generous to one another in thought, word, and deed. For you cannot love God and hate your brother. And hating your brother means not to forgive as you've been forgiven, to give as you've been given to, to love as you've been loved.

We are all beggars. This is true. But we, like Lazarus, are God's beggars. He not only gives us what we need for this body and life—food and clothes, house and home, husband, wife, and children—but He also blesses us with His Word and Spirit, so that we will enter into paradise in the life to come. He claims us as His own by water and the Word in Holy Baptism. In this washing, rich in grace, He gives to us what His Son, Jesus Christ, won for us on His cross: forgiveness of sins. And where there is the forgiveness of sins, there is also life and salvation. He puts His own name on us, thereby giving to us the right of children, the right to call Him Father and the right to His inheritance as His beloved sons. He gives us a seat at His table, in His house, in His kingdom, which has no end.

Yes, indeed, we are beggars. This is true. But we are beggars of the God who loves us, the God who created us from His love, the God who redeemed us by His love in the sending of His Son to die so that we would live and have life to the full. This is His promise. It's what

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not confused about His. Thanks be to God to that, right?

I am a pessimist when I read every new plan and paradigm as the

latest and greatest thing to rescue the Church from her demise and accomplish God's saving purpose through them. I am a pessimist against every person who presumes to be the Church's savior, having his or her own agenda in making all things new. I am a pessimist against modernity parading as the new work of the Holy Spirit. I am a pessimist against the Pollyannas who think everything will work itself out in the end with or without us.

But, and please understand me well, I am an optimist because I believe the Word of God does what He promises. I am an optimist who is confident the splash of water is the hand of God making a new-born Christian. I am an optimist who believes that the Spirit is at work in the means of grace and that this is how God builds, sustains, and endures His Church against her enemies. I am an optimist who is in awe of the flesh of Christ and His blood given and shed for us once and now present to us in the blessed Sacrament. I am an optimist who cannot quite contain himself on Sunday morning that anyone was here much less the many whom the Spirit has called and gathered around the Word and Table of our Lord. I am an optimist who believes that if I can contain my sinful desire to control all things, God will accomplish His purpose even through me. (WOW! That would be amazing!!) I am an optimist who believes that the Church was here before I came and, God willing and by faithfully administering the means of grace, she will be here for the next

pastor who follows me (you know, like a hundred years from now – that's being a true optimist – or a true conceded freak). I am an optimist who knows that God has given us, yes, you and me, all the resources we need even though we are always short of money (not because God is stingy but because our wallets remain the hardest part of us to convert – I was hoping for a chuckle there).

Christians, yes, like you and me, are often considered optimists because we feed the poor without making a dent in poverty; because we show mercy to the suffering but there seems no shortage of pain; and because we preach the eternal Gospel to those who cannot hear it for the noise of the moment. And we do so without growing weary of well-doing – not because of our own character virtues but because we know God has called, gathered, enlightened, and sanctified us ... and if us, He will continue to call others after us.

So, maybe it is not optimism. Maybe it is faith. Without it I don't know how I could rise from the bed in the morning or rest at night. I don't know how I could do what I do over and over again expecting new results and not go crazy (or maybe I already am). I don't know how I could look in the mirror and expect God to work through such a pathetic excuse for a child of God I am. I don't know how I could see my way through the maze of the present with all its temptations, trials, and troubles and know that if I die and when I die, I will rise with Christ to new and everlasting life. Maybe it isn't a matter of optimism but a matter faith – saving faith in Jesus.

I guess I feel a lot like Peter who said, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the Words of eternal life" (John 6:68). If I read those words rightly, Peter was not making a bold statement of faith but expressing what I

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WOULD YOU SAY I AM AN OPTIMIST OR A PESSIMIST?

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express every day – I would love to find another way but there is no other way that leads to everlasting life. I would love a god who defers to my reason and fulfills my wishes but I have only the God who has loved me to death on the cross. I literally have no other place to go ... and neither do you. Those aren't the thoughts of a pessimist. Rather, they are the words of an optimist. And don't be resigned to this as if it were a bad thing. Friends, it is the best there is!

I am optimist in one sense; that God has given us nothing less than His best to save us and

delivers up this treasure every Sunday in the Divine Service. So, if we will respond with voices raised in songs of praise, grateful spirit in joy, trusting hearts in His gracious will, ears that hear His voice, and wills that follow His lead, it is the best there can be until we see Him in His glory.

You know, sometimes I have to remind others about this. Let the truth be told: I have to remind myself all the time. "Lord, I believe. Help me in my unbelief" (Mark 9:24). In other words, Lord, I am an optimist. Help me when I am a pessimist.

In His Eternal Promise,
Pastor Kress

FROM THE TREASURER



July 2015:

<u>ACTUAL</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>OVER/(UNDER)</u>
INCOME: \$9,030	INCOME: \$15,404	(\$6,374)
EXPENSE: \$13,766	EXPENSE: \$17,588	(\$3,822)

YEAR TO DATE (AS OF JULY 31, 2015)

INCOME: \$100,575	INCOME: \$107,852	(\$7,277)
EXPENSE: \$123,322	EXPENSE: \$128,685	(\$5,363)



TRAVELS OF AQUILA AND PRISCILLA

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, it has been about a month or so since we left Florida. We miss you all. Since we left we have been in ten different states and have learned that one might plan but its best to try to make the best of what one encounters along the way and just put it in HIS hands.



We had planned to leave Florida on July 15th and have everything boxed so that the crew we hired could load the truck or us. Unfortunately the grandmother of one our crew members died and her funeral was scheduled for the 15th so they asked if they could load us on the 14th. We agreed to that thinking we could get everything packed and boxed, but because of the rain and an unexpected trip to the Vet with our Lily we did not get completely loaded until about 7 PM on the 15th. We got all the way to Kings Hwy. and I-75 that evening. The 16th we had a few last minute errands to run and we actually got on the road around noon.

The 16th was another rainy day and we were in it until just about 20 miles south of I-10. Aquila quickly learned that driving a 26 foot truck in the rain and wind gusts is not as easy as it seems. Aquila has a much more appreciation for the ability and talent of truckers to keep their rigs on the road.

Priscilla had a little excitement on the 17th when she saw a tire on the auto transport being towed by the U-Haul truck blow up with a puff of smoke. Aquila didn't know anything had happened until Priscilla came across on the walkie-talkie telling him what happened. The U-Haul Company did a great job in getting a crew out to replace the wheel and tire. We were back on the road in about an hour and a half and we were about 20 miles from the nearest town. The rest of this leg of our travels went by with no problems. We made our usual stop in Bastrop, Texas where we had our Tex-Mex fix.

We spent the next two weeks taking care of some personnel business and spending time with our daughter and her family. Unfortunately during this time we had to put Lily to sleep due to a possible stroke. A few days later Priscilla and our daughter had to make an emergency trip to Chicago because our grandson that lives in Chicago had to have a bone graft on his knee. We also had the opportunity to worship at two different LCMS churches in Austin, Texas. Redeemer, a very large church with all the modern whistles and bells and Trinity, a more traditional church with kneelers in the pews and use of the red hymnal.

Our leg from Texas to Minnesota was great. In Fort Worth we got another Tex-Mex fix at one of our favorite Tex-Mex restaurants. We also learned that traveling through Iowa is not a great idea when it's state fair time or when all the people involved in poultry raising are gathered together to work on the bird flu problem. It kind of reminded me of another couple that was trying to get a room at an inn. We've been in Minnesota enjoying the time with our son and family. Today we dined by Minnehaha Falls which were made famous by Longfellow in his poem about Minnehaha and Hiawatha.

We pray for Redeemer that God will provide the manpower and the resources needed for the work in our corner of HIS vineyard. We expect to stay here until the day after Labor Day and then start on the third leg of our travels.

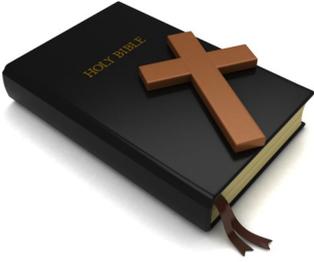
FAREWELL AND GODSPEED

On Sunday, July 12th, Redeemer Lutheran Church said Farewell and Godspeed to Joe & Carol Carlos. For a long time, Joe & Carol desired to return to Austin, TX in order to reunite with family and make their final settlement here on earth. Both Joe & Carol were faithful participating members and leaders of Redeemer for many years. We will miss them greatly. At the Voter's Meeting on the same day, Joe & Carol were the recipients of the first Aquila & Priscilla Award given to a married couple who served the church faithfully. The inscription on the plaque reads:

AQUILA AND PRISCILLA AWARD
Fellow Workers in Christ Jesus
Romans 16:3-4
Presented to
Joe & Carol Carlos
In Grateful Appreciation
For their display of exemplary
Service, Mercy, and Leadership
REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH
Englewood, FL
July 12, 2015



FAMILY FUN AND DEVOTION NIGHT



Redeemer Lutheran Church & Child Care is beginning a Family Night of FUN and a Night of Family DEVOTION beginning Saturday, September 19th. This special gathering is intended for ALL families and friends of Redeemer Lutheran Church & Child Care. The evening of FUN and DEVOTION will begin around 5 PM with DINNER in Fellowship Hall.

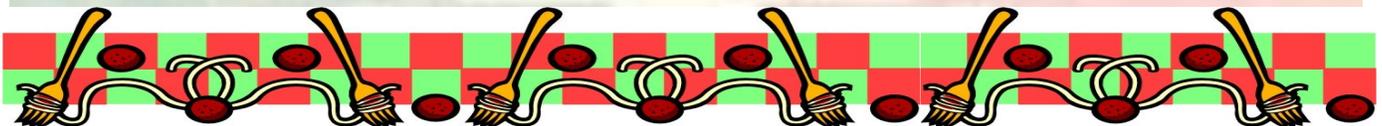
Our first Night of Family Fun will consist of an *Italian Night Dinner*. Families planning to attend our inaugural Family Fun and Devotion Night are asked to bring something Italian to share, such as, garlic bread, spaghetti, pasta salad, baked ziti, or meatballs. And let's not forget about dessert. As the adults prepare the tables for food, enjoying enjoyable fellowship among others, the children can play outside having fun on our playground, playing soccer, or shooting basketballs. Or they can stay inside and play board games, put together puzzles, or even help mom and dad with dinner. When Dinner is ready, all will gather around the tables, offer a table prayer, and enjoy the delicious Italian Dinner.



When Dinner is finished, everyone will help clean-up and then prepare for Family Devotion. This time of Family Devotion is a time to give thanks to God for all His wonderful blessings. We will listen to His Word, which may be read to us by some of our volunteering children. We will pray to Him and finally praise Him in song. Family Devotion time is also a wonderful way that we, as parents, can encourage our children to give a little time back to God. When Family Devotion time closes with prayer, families are free to go home and prepare to wake up the next morning to come to Church at 9:15 AM and receive from God His many blessings.

We are all in need of some physical and spiritual structure. May this one night a month Family Fun and Devotion Night become a part of your physical and spiritual strengthening. "Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in Him!" – Psalm 34:8.

SEE YOU ALL SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19TH AT 5:00 PM



JOYFUL RESPONSE (LCEF) PROGRAM

Dear Members and Associate Members of Redeemer Lutheran Church,

The Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF) has a stewardship program called *Joyful Response*. This program can benefit us as individuals, as a congregation, as well as our fellow Lutherans Synod-wide. What's so special about this program? It is offered at absolutely no cost to us as individuals or as a congregation.

Joyful Response is a great description of how the Gospel moves us into action. The Gospel message of Jesus' love and sacrifice for us motivates us to respond, in faith, by the power of the Holy Spirit. *Joyful Response* allows us to be more conscientious and consistent about our giving.

Through *Joyful Response*, (LCEF) allows us a very simple way to give to the mission and support of Christ's church here in Englewood and abroad as well. As already mentioned *Joyful Response* is free. It is also a secure program that allows us to give our tithes, offerings and gifts on a scheduled basis to Redeemer Lutheran Church.

This program has several advantages for so many people. Here are a few:

FOR YOU: It allows you consistent and scheduled giving in a safe and secure way. If you live here in Englewood, there is no more need to search for your offering envelopes, writing a check and waiting for it to be cashed. For those who spend time on vacations or who split their time between Florida and a northern state, it enables you to continue to support the ministry here in Englewood while away.

FOR YOUR LOCAL CHURCH: It enables better budgeting. We are able to rely on specific and consistent income so that bills can be paid and mission opportunities can be planned and carried out.

FOR THE CHURCH AT

LARGE: It enables the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod to use the funds to grow mission churches for greater outreach and the spread of the Gospel saving message. This would enable a greater joyful response from more children of the faith from generation to generation.

As stated above, your automatic contributions are safe and secure in a proven system. Only one person, Deb Horner, our Financial Secretary, would know of any personal information locally. And did I mention *Joyful Response* is free?

Friends, all of this points to good and faithful stewardship on the part of the members of Redeemer Lutheran Church and for the Church as an entire entity.

If you would like an application, please contact the church office. Please look it over and prayerfully consider your participation in this stewardship program. If you believe *Joyful Response* will be a benefit to you, please complete the form, indicate on the envelope *Joyful Response* and return to our church office to the attention of Deb Horner, Financial Secretary. If you are unable to print out an application, they may be picked up at the Visitor's Desk in the church Narthex or in our church office.

Thank you for your consideration as we work and walk together to carry out the work and ministry of Christ Jesus our Lord and only Savior. The Lord richly bless you in His grace.

Stephen Wurster

President, Redeemer Lutheran Church & Child Care

Rev. Mark Steinke,

Chairman, Board of Stewardship

Rev. Jim Kress

Pastor, Redeemer Lutheran Church & Child Care

*Joyful
Response®*

Joyful Response[®]

Our congregation offers you a way to respond joyfully in meeting your stewardship commitments.



Use *Joyful Response* to:

- > Give consistently.
- > Help you prepare and fulfill your stewardship plans.
- > Share your generosity efficiently and predictably.

Complete this form and return it to the church office.

Joyful Response service provided by:



Lutheran Church Extension Fund

> where investments build ministry

10733 Sunset Office Drive
Suite 300
St. Louis, MO 63127-1020
800-843-5233
lcef.org



LCEF StewardAccount access features provided through UMB Bank n.a. LCEF is a nonprofit religious organization; therefore, LCEF investments are not FDIC-insured bank deposit accounts. This is not an offer to sell LCEF investments, nor a solicitation to buy. LCEF will offer and sell its securities only in states where authorized. The offer is made solely by LCEF's Offering Circular. Investors should carefully read the Offering Circular, which more fully describes associated risks.

WILL THERE BE ANIMALS IN HEAVEN? by Chad Bird

Go as far back into history as you can, and you'll find that there's always been a bond between people and animals that is closer than our connection to any other part of creation.

It began at the beginning. God didn't ask Adam, "What is this rock's name? This plant? This body of water?" But he did bring every beast of the field and every bird of the sky to Adam so that he could name them (Gen 2:19). Indeed, this served a dual purpose: not only did Adam name them, but he also searched for a possible mate. Scripture says that, of all these animals, "there was not found a suitable helper for him," (2:20). Thus, Eve was subsequently crafted from Adam's own body as that suitable helper. In the beginning, therefore, human life and animal life were intertwined.

Go forward a few generations and this bond is underscored once more. When the flood destroys all but eight people in the world, Noah and his family are kept safe in a boat that looks like a floating zoo. When they emerge from the ark, people and animals set foot within a kind of "new creation." God saw fit not only to preserve humanity for this fresh start, but also the animals.

And one more story. When God threatened to demolish Nineveh unless they turned from their wicked ways, the citizens were so zealous in repentance that the king commanded a citywide fast in which neither "man, beast, herd, or flock" should eat or drink. Indeed, he went on, "both man and beast must be covered with sackcloth," (3:7-8). When Jonah pouts because things didn't go his way, God asks, "Should I not have compassion on Nineveh, the great city in which there are not more than 120,000 persons who do not know the difference



between their right hand and left hand, as well as many animals?" (4:11). That last phrase—"as well as many animals"—highlights that God was not merely compassionate toward the people of Nineveh. Those fasting, sackcloth-clad animals were in need of mercy as well.

But how far does this mercy extend? To the limits of this life or beyond? Will there be dogs and horses and birds in heaven? Or are these animals only part of the gifts of this world?

There's a twofold answer to that question. First, no, there is no promise that there will be animals in heaven. But heaven is not the ultimate goal of humanity. When believers die, they go to paradise, in the presence of Christ, but there they anticipate the climactic gift of God: the resurrection of the body. From now until the return of Jesus on the last day, believers are waiting for God to raise and glorify their bodies. When that happens, "the heavens will pass away with a roar and the elements will be destroyed with intense heat, and the earth and its works will be burned up," (2 Peter 3:10). Then, according to his promise, God will give us "a new heavens and a new earth, in which righteousness dwells," (3:13).

WILL THERE BE ANIMALS IN HEAVEN? by Chad Bird

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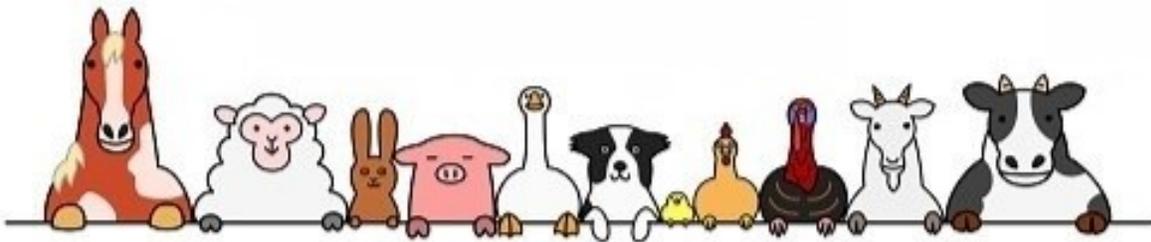
What will this new heavens and new earth be like? Isaiah describes it as a place where there is no more weeping and crying, but rather rejoicing (65:17-19). People shall build houses and live in them, plants vineyards and enjoy their fruit. All will be well again, better than Eden. Indeed, “the wolf and the lamb shall graze together, and the lion shall eat straw like the ox,” (65:25). Elsewhere, when the prophet describes the blessings of the new creation in Christ, he says, “the wolf will dwell with the lamb, and the leopard will lie down with the kid, and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little boy will lead them,” (11:6).

So, will there be animals in heaven? No, we are not given that promise. But will there be animals in the new heavens and new earth, where we will reside in resurrected, glorified bodies? Yes, that is the way our Father has described the new creation which we await.

Our final resting place is indeed a physical, created place. We will not strum harps as we recline on fluffy clouds in a spirit-like existence. Rather, we will have bodies. We will eat and drink. We will enjoy a creation even better than what Adam and Eve enjoyed. As our first parents had a bond with the animals, as Noah had animals with him in the reboot of creation after the flood, so after the fire-flood that brings the old creation to an end, we will enjoy a new creation that includes animals.

All of this will be because in Christ, God our Father is making all things new (Rev 21:5). His resurrection is the source of life in the new creation. In him and because of him, our Father is well-pleased with us. And he is pleased to give us a place where we might dwell with him, in harmony with creation. There we, the children of Adam, will once more enjoy the companionship of the animals our first father named so long ago.

You can read more of Chad’s writings at <https://birdchadlouis.wordpress.com/> also known as the Flying Scroll.



PRAYERS



SHUT-INS: Carl & Betty Bertka, Betty Keller, Helen Perry, and Ruth Sutley.

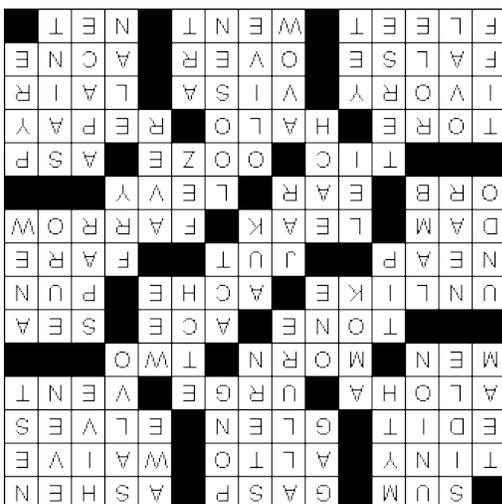
HEALING: Mickie Abel, Neva Aldene, Marion Bise, Alice Borowski, Frank Demma, Pat Finkenbine, Bernice Heppner, Susan Jahns, Dave Johnson, Rita Kaufmann, Martin McGrath, Sandy McGrath, Bob Mortenson, Marlene Mossner, Bob Payne, Carolyn Plesner, Joyce Redding, Duwayne Schoeneck, Fred Toth, Robert Vickey and Steve Wurster..

Friends & Relatives: Linny Aspery, Dick & Marilyn Bjornas, Grace Blum, Michelle Bernard, Debbie Buel, Dennis Burchell, Georgia Bush, Jack Carlos, Diane Carr, Debbie Carr, Esther Clapham, Bobbett Clark, Joanne Clymo, Martin Cressman, Renee Dempsey, Dale DesJardins, Brian DeTrow, Ed DeTrow, Irene DiTommaso, James Dodge, Barb Dumeah, Bruce Everson, Darla Finkenbine, Marla Flores, Lou Fountain, Denver Fredett, Manual Galan, Glenn Galway, Liam Garland, Sandra Gettings, Nancy Gleis, Shelley Roedel Gutz, Debbie Harrison, Larry Headun, Claudette Hendershot, Joel Heppner, Walter

Heppner, Glory Herget, Joan Hillis, Robin Hincman, David Hirtle, Larry Hladun, Carol Holmes, Linda Holt, John Hunter, Linda Hunter, Stanley & Lynne Jablonski, Bill Jaquest, Heather Johnson, Rachel Kagay, John Kearns, Elizabeth Lynn Klopfenstein, Stacey Lampert, Ray Likowski, Sean Maki, Joe Manson, Candace McGowan, Pete Mogg, John Montondo, Mike Morrissey, Maureen Nesvacil, Charles Pentecost Jr., Margo Plamondon, Mary Raines, Rachell Sanders, Ashley Scudder, Ryan Sheahan, Don Shepherd, Nancy Sly, Debbie Speer Smith, Virginia Stanley, Charles Tolley, Samantha Jo Ann Toth, George Vespa, Steven Walker, Christy Wallace, Helen Weishaar, Gordan Winkel, and Tim Wright.

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

Pastor and members of the church are always willing to pray for you, family members and friends. If a loved one appears on our prayer list above, please call Pastor or the church office to give us a health update so that we may either keep or remove their name. Thank you!



***The deadline for the October Newsletter is September 16th
Please have all your submissions sent to [redeemerfl@verizon.net](mailto:redemerfl@verizon.net) OR drop it off at the church office to Deb by the date indicated above.
Thank You!***

BIBLE STUDY

With all the hype and excitement of the new Avengers fictional movie, *Age of Ultron*, I thought it would be advantageous for us to look into a book of the Bible containing some nonfictional biblical super heroes. The Book of Judges is just such a book. Following the death of Joshua and before the rise of Israel's monarchy, God preserved His people from being absorbed by pagan cultures through the ministry of savior-judges. Although immanently human and sometimes exceedingly wicked, God's gracious work through these men and women foreshadows His greater work of deliverance through the true and perfect Savior-Judge, Jesus Christ. In Judges you will learn about: the successful woman-man team of Deborah and Barak; the



mighty Spirit-powered deeds of Samson; and God's faithfulness to His covenantal promises to His people, ultimately fulfilled in His Son, Jesus Christ. Come join us on **Sunday mornings at 8:00 AM** in the church sanctuary to learn more about these biblical super heroes. You will be amazed how God worked through men and women and how He continues to work through you. Are you a super hero?

SUNDAY SCHOOL BEGINS IN SEPTEMBER

Yay! School has begun – AND Sunday School will soon begin again at Redeemer! This is such an important mission of our church and we need your help to grow this ministry. Would you be able to help just one Sunday every 4-6 weeks? It is our hope to have enough teachers on staff so that it won't be a big obligation for just one or two people and we can spread the work out among 12-14 teachers. We are also in desperate need of a volunteer Sunday School Superintendent to be in charge of scheduling teachers, ordering supplies and organizing the program. An organizational meeting for ALL teachers is being held on Tuesday, September 1st, 6:30 pm, at Pastor's & Lisa's house. **Sunday School Rally Day will be Sunday, September 13th, with installation of teachers at Divine Worship, followed by lots of family fun, food & fellowship.** If you have questions contact Pam Replinger or Pastor Kress. Please prayerfully consider how you can help!



ENGLEWOOD HELPING HANDS

At this time of year, Englewood Helping Hands is very busy and are always in need of supplies for their pantry. **Also, if you would like to volunteer to help at the pantry, contact Englewood Helping Hands at 941-474-5864.** If you would like to donate to their pantry, following is a list of the current needs: canned chicken, tuna or ham, peanut butter & jelly, mac & cheese, canned fruit, cereal, rice, soups, toilet paper, paper towels, bar soap, shampoo, clothes detergent and dish soap. Thank you for all your support.



SENIOR FELLOWSHIP

Everyone is invited to the Fellowship every Thursday, starting at 10:00. ***The people attending, the more FUN we can have!!!*** The most popular things to play are: Pinochle, Phase 10, SkipBO, and Hand & Foot. We also have Dominoes or other games if they are requested. There must be something you would like to have fun with, so come on out. Once in awhile we have a special home made lunch but usually everyone brings a bag lunch. Drinks and dessert furnished.



KRAFT KORNER

We are always in need of items we can sell in our corner. Even if you think it is junk "remember, your junk is someone else's treasure. Please check around and see what you might have. We have a pretty good supply of books if you need to read while relaxing or waiting in doctor's office. Come check it out.

LUTHERAN WITNESS SUBSCRIPTION

If you are not familiar with the Lutheran Witness magazine, it has undergone some wonderful improvements this past year. Renewed or new subscriptions are now being received. If you would like to renew or begin a subscription, please contact the church office. Yearly subscriptions are \$11.00 and all checks should be made out to Redeemer Lutheran Church c/o The Lutheran Witness. The Lutheran Witness can also be obtained electronically or by way of a mobile application. Go to the following link in order to get connected today: <http://www.lcms.org/resources/publications>.

PROPERTY APPRECIATION DAY

We sure could use some help on our Property Appreciations Days every month. There is outside work to do and cleaning and dusting that needs done inside the Church. If you can help, please come to the church and we will put you to work. **Our next Property Appreciation Day is August September 12th at 8:00 AM.**



The Rotonda West Christmas Parade

Mark your calendars for Saturday, December 5th, 2015 at 2:00 PM. Redeemer will be participating in the Annual Rotonda West Christmas Parade. If you are interested in participating, please contact Cindy Johnson at 815-228-0536.

Redeemer Child Care!

SEPTEMBER



Bible Lessons

Chapel is on Monday's at
3:45

8/31 God Made Me

Genesis 1-2

9/7 God Made The
World

Genesis 1

9/14 The Flood

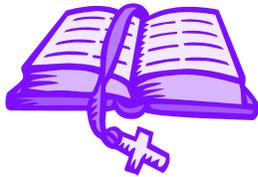
Genesis 6:11-8:22

9/21 Abraham's Call

Genesis 12:1-9

9/28 Abraham's Son
Isaac Is Born

Genesis 21:1-7



Dear God,
Through the power of
Your word, you created
such a beautiful world.
Thank You for it! Amen.

*Submitted by Wendy
Horvath*

Birthdays

9/2 Ms. Miranda

9/3 Jayden

9/3 Kimberly

9/4 Braxton

9/5 Ms. Emily S.

9/5 Samantha

9/10 Ayden

9/10 Jack

9/16 Matthew

9/21 Alyssa



Special Days in September

9/7 Labor Day - Child
Care is CLOSED

9/13 Rally Day for
Sunday School and
Teacher instillation at
the Church Service

What We Are Learning

8/31 God Gives Life to
the World

9/7 Creation Is God's
Gift for Us to Enjoy

9/14 God Remembers
and Cares for Us

9/21 God Blesses His
People

9/28 God keeps His
Promises

We had a GREAT Summer!

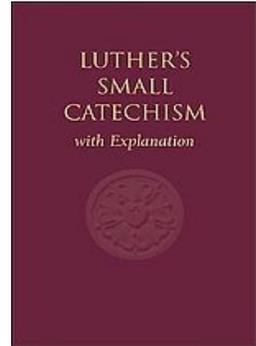
Stop by a see our newly
decorated rooms. Super
Cute themes like "The
Very Hungry
Caterpillar" and "The
Minions!"

Redeemer Child Care is very
excited for the new school
year. We had a great
summer with lots of trips to
the pool and super fun field
trips!

INQUIRING MINDS WANT TO KNOW...

INQUIRING MINDS WANT TO KNOW, "WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?"

Another opportunity to attend information classes will begin very soon (a full schedule of classes is provided below). We will meet in the large meeting room in Fellowship Hall and classes will begin at 7 PM and run for about an hour and a half. This is a wonderful opportunity to understand more clearly what God's Words says and how His Word is relevant in your life today. The atmosphere of the classroom is relaxed, full of laughter, and yet, the teachings remain faithful to Holy Scripture and the Confessions of the Lutheran Church.



- If you have been attending worship services here at Redeemer and would like to become a member of Redeemer Lutheran Church & Child Care, this is the class for you!
- If you have been attending worship services at Redeemer, but are not sure what it is Lutherans believe, teach, and confess, this is the class for you!
- If you have a child in our Child Care Center and would like to further establish you and your child in a Christian congregation, this is the class for you.

If you are member of Redeemer, but haven't brushed the dust off the old catechism in some time and would like to be refreshed in the teachings of the Christian faith, this is the class of you!

If you are interested in attending, contact the church office to reserve your seat. You may have received a personal invitation from Pastor Kress. Please call the church office a let him know of your intentions. He really does care about your spirituality and your eternal salvation. Pastor also believes these classes are great for couples to attend.

Information classes will began on **Wednesday, August 19th** and will conclude on **Thursday, September 24rd**. There are a total of 10 classes scheduled with a total of 15 hours of instruction from the pastor. Upon completion of these classes, it is our hope of welcoming new members into our fellowship on **Sunday, September 27th** by way of either confirmation, transfer, affirmation of faith, or association. Should you ever have a question about the classes or the Christian faith, please ask the Pastor. See you in class!

Tuesday, September 8th
Thursday, September 10th
Tuesday, September 15th

Thursday, September 17th
Tuesday, September 22nd
Thursday, September 24th



CLASSIFIEDS

Real Estate Services

Lora Laurain
Placida Properties 888-941-9444 or Cell 941-408-5292

Lawn Care

Call Todd Armstrong at 941-961-7584 for your lawn care needs.

FREE

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS, HERE IS A GREAT OPPORTUNITY!!!

We have limited space, but space available, for you to place your FREE advertisement. Please contact the Church office by phone or email if you would like to place an ad.

LOST AND FOUND

If anyone is missing any items, namely eyeglasses, gloves, umbrellas, etc., please check the Lost & Found box located in the narthex.

GREETERS

September 6th

September 13th *Sally Zierdt*

September 20th

September 27th

*Submitted by
Assimilation*



COFFEE HOUR

September 6th *Laurie Steinke*

September 13th

September 20th *Dennis & Pam
Replinger*

September 27th

*Submitted by Brd. of
Community &
Parish Fellowship*



PUZZLE PAGE

Across

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

Down

1. Move sideways
2. Political unit
3. Traditional story
4. Joke
5. The power to attract
6. Rear part of a ship
7. Classic computer game
8. Wonderment
9. Fusillade
10. Teeming multitude
11. Level
12. Bird shelter
13. Squad
20. Berserk
26. Single
28. Very small (Scottish)
29. Gratuity
30. Perform
31. Box
32. Currency
33. Afresh
34. Reverse an action
35. Approach
36. Young animal
37. Seabird
40. Container
41. Cook
43. Hawaiian garland
44. Every one

45. Felt cap
46. Affirm
49. Relax
50. Laconic
51. Mediterranean fruit
52. Rapidly
53. Holy person
54. Funeral fire
55. Petty quarrel
56. Elliptical
57. Theatrical part
59. Declare solemnly
61. Zeal
63. So far
65. Prowess

	1	2	3		4	5	6	7		8	9	10	11	12	
13					14					15					
16					17					18					
19				20		21			22		23				
24				25	26				27	28					
			29					30				31	32	33	
34	35	36					37					38			
39						40					41				
42				43	44				45	46					
47				48				49							
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55	56	57			58	59				60	61				
62				63		64			65		66				
67						68					69				
70						71					72				



Redeemer Lutheran Church

Solution on Page 13



Web—Church: www.redeemerfl.com



Web—Child Care: www.redeemerfl-cc.com

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

ADDRESS SERVICE
REQUESTED - OPTION 1

NON PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PLACID, FL
PERMIT 774



2015

REDEEMER LUTHERAN
CHURCH & CHILD CARE
6465 Mayport Street
Englewood, FL 34224

REV. JAMES T. KRESS, SR.

Church Phone: 941-475-2410
Church Fax: 941-475-9726

Child Care Phone: 941-475-2631

E-mail: redeemerfl@verizon.net

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:

Bible Study: 8:00 AM
Divine Service: 9:15 AM
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 accepting 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 neighbors as He served us.