

REDEEMER REPORTER

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH & CHILD CARE - JANUARY 2013

THE PAST: HOLDING ON OR MOVING FORWARD

Recently I was hit with a barrage of very difficult circumstances in the lives of loved ones, friends, and members of the church. The circumstances are very real and carry a tremendous weight of emotional suffering and pain. When faced with difficult circumstances the question will eventually arise: "Do I hold on to the past or do I move forward?"

All of us make this decision each and every day. Some days are easier than others because the circumstances aren't as severe. However, when the circumstances are difficult and the decision to hold on to the past because it gives the impression of providing the most soothing comfort, and to move forward doesn't seem to be a viable option, what do you do? Well the answer to this question isn't always the answer we want to hear at the time.

The most difficult circumstances nearly always involve the loss or break in a relationship. And these relationships can be as subtle as a relationship between your neighbors or as important as a relationship between your spouse or a child.

I am confident that we have all enjoyed a good movie, a theatre play, a Broadway show, or a book. I would like to address this issue of holding on to the past or moving forward with a type of a metaphor called allegory.

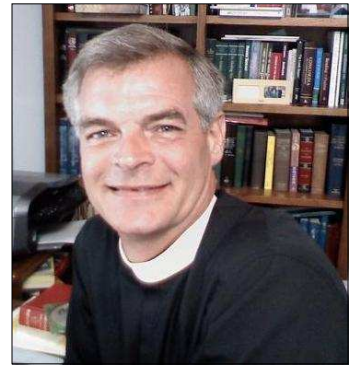
Holding on to the past is trying to breathe life into a play or show which is closed. It is struggling to raise the curtain in a dark theatre, on a dusty stage, all by yourself. The other players and actors have left. The stage in empty. You stand there all alone.

Holding on to the past is going over everyone's lines, long since said, playing all the parts – alone. It is being stuck, unable to correct or change the lines.

Holding on to the past is entrapment in something of a time warp. The costumes no longer fit. The buttons have nearly all popped. You're a different person today but you still force the action, rewinding the tape and expecting a different outcome in the movie.

Holding on to the past is a brutal attack on yourself, because you become, on this stage, both the victim and the attacker. This stage and its performers are usually found in front of the mirror. And here's the greatest tragedy: Forgiving the players in the past isn't even a thought.

You get caught up in the "only ifs," hanging on to dreams which did not come true, losses – a loved one who has died, an unhappy childhood, a marriage which did not end happily ever after, a youth gone wayward, unkind words spoken – opportunities which have disappeared, long gone in the past.



The game is over, but you are a bad sport about it. You refuse to accept defeat. You continue to run the tape over and over again. You can put it on rewind all you want, but you can't get into the movie anymore. You can't rewrite the script.

All that seems to be left for you to do is turn around, let go of the past, and move forward. And yet, it's the hardest thing to do.

You realize that you cannot turn a horror film into a love story. You understand well that you cannot edit the vulgar words of an NC-17 movie into a made for television family special. Therefore, you are only able to close the book and pick up another one, that is, a new one, a holy one.

The Lord has these words for your hurting heart: "Turn to Me and be saved" (Isaiah 45:22a). Jesus says to you: "Come to Me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest" (Matthew 11:28). And "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9).

My friends in Christ, the past is not holding you. You are holding it. Let go and move forward.

Receive Christ's gift of forgiveness which frees you from past sins committed. His gift also enables you to forgive others whether they're ready or not to get in line for the show.

There's a new play in town. The reviews are very promising. The Lords says, "I, I am He who blots out your transgressions for My own sake, and I will not remember your sins" (Isaiah 43:25). And this is the conclusion of this promising review: "Now that you have been set free from sin and have become

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Pastor	Rev. James Kress
Seasonal Pastor	Rev. Mark Steinke
LHM Ambassador	Rev. Earl Schmidt
Child Care Director	Wendy Horvath
Office Secretary	Susan Moore
Organists	Bill Bowers Lanette Schmidt
Choir Director	Doris Dykhuizen
Newsletter Editors	Jennifer Long & Susan Moore

OFFICERS

President	Rich Kueker
Vice President	
Treasurer	Judy Murphy
Secretary	Betty Clemens

BOARDS

Head Elder	Tim Byrne
Assimilation	Deb Kueker
Property Mgmt	
Christian Ed.	Pam Replinger
Human Care	Carol Carlos
Outreach	Ty Schulte
School Board	Bill Bowers
Stewardship	
Youth	Dan & Rebecca Fernandez
Financial Secretary	Karen Kirkland

CLUBS/GUILDS

Ladies Guild	Sally Zierdt
Men's Group	Bob Mortenson

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Hope springs eternal. We usually hear that phrase in conjunction with the beginning of baseball's spring training and the start of a New Year. While not forgetting the past, we look forward to the future and the hope it brings. We hope for good health; physically, emotionally, and economically. We hope to never again witness the tragedy that took place last month and the other sad events of the past year.

We are very fortunate at Redeemer and can look forward with more than just hope in the future. We KNOW where our eventual future leads us.

HE gave us HIS son and we are HIS children. We are loved.

We look forward to continuous growth of our church and doing the work that needs to be done. We look forward to meeting the financial needs of our church and school. (it only takes an average of \$2.00/week more per family to meet these needs-1 less cup of coffee). We give of the many riches GOD has given us. We look forward to filling our current council vacancies; vice-president, stewardship chairman, property management chairman, and vacancies on some of our boards and committees. Please prayerfully consider investing some of your time and talent in those areas. GOD can truly make use of your talents in many ways at Redeemer.

We will continue to move forward in 2013 and may GOD bless you, yours and Redeemer.

Rich

(Continue to practice smiling for your pictorial in our new directory)



YOUTH GROUP NEWS

In the past our Youth Group has been under the direction of wonderful and dedicated leaders. Unfortunately for nearly two years now our Youth Group has been without leadership and has suffered immensely, as you could imagine. I believe prayers have been answered and the Lord has provided a way for us to rejuvenate our Youth Group. Over the last handful of months many of you have noticed a number of new faces and young children sitting in the pews on Sunday mornings. The Lord is providing not only the youth, but also the leadership needed for a successful youth program here at Redeemer. Dan & Rebecca Fernandez will serve as the new leaders for our Youth Group. They have been members at Redeemer for more than a year and have two handsome boys. Please welcome them in their position of leadership and by all means keep them in your prayers. In the past our Youth Group has varied in its range of ages for participation. Because many of our youth are at a younger age, we thought it would be best to extend our Youth Group involvement to boys and girls in 3rd Grade and older. This may again change after a few years, but we just don't know how the Lord would have us to then, but we believe this is what He would have us do now. Look for weekly and monthly Youth Group News in future Newsletters and Bulletins. Undoubtedly, this Youth Ministry is in need of your support and your prayers. Thank you, Pastor Kress

EXTENDED YOUTH

Beginning Thursday, January 10th the Redeemer Youth Group will be meeting following Confirmation Class for EXTENDED YOUTH at 5:30 PM. Extended Youth will be planned for each of the following months of Jan.—May. Our first extended youth gathering will be met with homemade pizza furnished by the hot oven cooking of Mike Guastella (yes, he's Italian and it is rumored he makes a mean pie). If you are either a boy or a girl and are in 3rd grade or higher please ask your mom or dad to drive you to Redeemer Fellowship Hall for a great night of pizza, fun, and games. We will also be introducing our schedule for the entire spring season. Please take note of our first dual activity below.



HABITAT FOR HUMANITY & BOWLING FOR FUN



Youth Group will participate in a volunteer work program providing breakfast items for the hard working volunteers of Habitat for Humanity in Sarasota County. We are meeting at the church on Saturday morning, January 12th at 8:00 AM to drive in one of our vans to bring and then distribute nutritional breakfast food, water, and juice on the worksite just off Overbrook Road in Englewood. Following our efforts in giving time to others, we will drive to Treasure Lanes for a fun-filled day of bowling. We plan to supply the bowling and fun, however lunch will not be free. Parents will be responsible in supplying their children with meal money for their lunch. Please contact Dan & Rebecca (941-661-9825) with any questions and to let them know your child will be attending any of the events on this page sponsored by the Youth Group.

ASSIMILATION

It seems like I just wrote and submitted a report yesterday for our monthly newsletter. And, sigh, perhaps it was just yesterday, as I was one of 'those' who submitted an article, ah, rather late, I am afraid. So, when I received my little reminder from Susan that our articles were once again due, I decided to sit down and "get 'er dun".

By the time that this newsletter arrives and is read, many 'things' will have transpired. The Christmas decorations will have been taken down for yet another year. And sigh, we did not formally thank all those folks who once again appeared for duty on the designated 'Hanging of the Greens' day. Yes, an expression of sincere thanks on behalf of our committee was spoken, but alas and sigh, no formal thank you in the bulletin managed to get written. From those who labored in getting the boxes down, the trees set up, the nativity in the Narthex, to once again placing our beloved ornaments back in the box...ah, we could not have done it without you!!!!

And then there are the Elders to thank. In their knowledge of how our committee often struggles with the Coffee Hour, the Elders came forward to volunteer for the month of January. They are hoping, with being such a shining example, that other boards and committees will also come forward and take on a month. We are so grateful for their willingness to take this on for our committee, as well as for our other, often repeated, volunteers who tackle this task.

Plus, depending on when this newsletter arrives, we either will be about to, or just beginning the photo sessions for our new directory. Prayed long and hard about this major task. And the Lord certainly delivered. He simply provided the Assimilation Board with willing folks who also just happened to possess the knowledge, talent, skills, etc. that were needed to complete this project. Everyone who came forward has blessed this endeavor in his/her unique God-given way. Simply stated, our committee cannot even express in words, how grateful we are for each and every one of you making this new pictorial a reality. (PLEASE MAKE CERTAIN THAT YOU HAVE YOUR FORM COMPLETED ON THE DATE OF YOUR PHOTO...blank ones, in case of loss, available in the Narthex.)

Submitted by Deb Kueker, Assimilation Board

***The deadline for the February Newsletter is January 20th.
Please have all your submissions sent to
REDEEMERFL@VERIZON.NET by the time indicated above.
Thank you.***

Continued from page 1 ... MOVING FORWARD

slaves of God, the fruit you get leads to sanctification and its end, **eternal life**" (Romans 6:22).

We can't put the past on rewind. The buttons are stuck. The actors have gone on to other roles. The set has been dismantled. The movie is over.

Here's good news for you: Jesus loves you; your sins are forgiven; heaven is yours through faith in Christ. Live in Christ. Move forward showing love to others.

In His Service,
Pastor Kress

FROM THE TREASURER'S DESK

November 2012

<i>Income</i>	<i>Expense</i>
\$18,819.98	\$25,607.76

PROPERTY APPRECIATION DAY

Please join us for our monthly "Property Appreciation" Day on the second Saturday of the month, January 12th!!! We begin at 8 AM. Join us in keeping our buildings and properties beautiful. There's a little something to do for anyone willing to help... THANK YOU!-*Property Management*

PRISON MINISTRY

Please continue to bring reading materials for the prison ministry. We can use old devotional books, religious books (NO HARD BACK BOOKS). Some one brought several hard back books before. We ask you to pick them up in the Narthex, if they are still there. Thanks for thinking of the ministry but they will not let the people have hard backs. Put all materials in the box to the left in the Narthex. Thanks.

Submitted by Lessie Kirch

THURSDAY SENIOR FELLOWSHIP

We would love to have you join us for a fun time of playing cards from 10:00 until Noon. We can use more players. There are several different games we play, take your choice. Followed by games, we break for lunch. Presently everyone is brown bagging. Dessert, coffee and tea are furnished. Tell your friends and join us!

Submitted by Lessie Kirch

THANK-YOU



A huge thank you to the members of the congregation who were Tellers for the Board of Finance in 2012. You are a very important part of the operation in the Finance office. The generosity of your time and talent is greatly appreciated. I look forward to working with you again in 2013. God bless you all.

Submitted by Karen Kirkland, Board of Finance.

USHERS



To all who serve as ushers. You are a very important part of Redeemer Lutheran Church Family. Your friendly smile, warm greeting and extended handshake make everyone feel welcome. Volunteering your time and talent is GOD's blessing to Redeemer Lutheran Church & Child Care.

Thank you.

Tom Kirkland



REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING - OCTOBER 8, 2012

PRESENT: Rich Kueker, Pastor Kress, Tim Byrne, Bill Bowers, Pam Replinger, Karen Kirkland, Judy Murphy, Charlie Vovcsko, Carol Carlos, Betty Clemens. The meeting was called to order at 7:01 PM by President Rich Kueker. Pastor Kress opened with prayer.

MINUTES of October 8, 2012 was reviewed. PAM MOVED, JUDY SECONDED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED.

CALENDAR for December was presented. Carol changed Human Care Meeting from Monday the 3rd to Wednesday the 5th at 10:30. Charlie added a Property Management meeting on Saturday the 1st at 9:00 AM in the Fellowship Hall. Pastor, Rich and all Council Members should attend. Pastor added Assimilation Comm. Handling of greens on Saturday, Dec. 1st and Carol will also do Altar Guild on the same day.

REPORTS

PASTOR - *New Members: 10/28

Confirmation: Michael Borza (wife, Sarah and sons, Jayden & Michael already members)

Jackie Jose (with daughter, Jackie and son, Tito)

Transfer: Don & Mary Blakely

Eric & Sharon Johnson

Judy Guastella (husband, Mike and great-grandchildren, Toby & Alyssa)

Associate Members: Charles & Patricia Finkenbine

*Youth Confirmation Class, Thursday, 4-5:30 PM. We currently have 2 catechumens.

*Bible Class Opportunities: Sunday Morning @ 9:15 AM by Rev. Mark Steinke- "Jesus...Legend or Lord?"

Tuesday Morning @ 10:00 AM by Rev. Jim Kress- "3:16"

Thursday Morning Ladies Bible Class @ 10:00 AM by Rev. Jim Kress-"Adoption"

*Sarasota Circuit Reformation Service 10/28, Hosted by Concordia Lutheran Church & School, Sarasota President of the Florida-Georgia District, Rev. Greg Walton was guest preacher. Many of the Circuit Pastors and Retired Pastors were involved in the service. Choirs from many of the Circuit Lutheran Churches also participated. Following the service Concordia hosted a Bratwurst & Beer Festival. Discussed financial situation of our Circuit post Reformation Service.

*Attended the Florida/Georgia District Pastor's Conference 10/8-10/10 in Lake Mary, FL.

*Sarasota Circuit Pastor's Meeting 11/6: Hosted by Hope Lutheran Church, Bradenton. Guest speaker, Rev. Milton Naus.

Continued study of Dietrich Bonhoeffer's book *Life Together*. Discussed Redeemer, Englewood hosting next Circuit Reformation Service in 2014 and then another Circuit congregation in 2017 for the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation. A discussion followed regarding the expenses for holding this service.

PRESIDENT: We have not made a commitment for the \$550 in our Dedicated Acct. #2103, Missionary/District Fund. BILL MADE A MOTION, SECONDED BY TIM, TO SEND \$100 TO OUR CIRCUIT FOR SUPPORT AND \$450 TO RELIEF FUND FOR HURRICANE "SANDY". MOTION CARRIED. PASTOR reported that there are still vacancies. Rich, Tim and Pastor have been asking members for their help and we should have a "full slate" by next month.

ELDERS: December's Voters need to pass IRS code for Pastoral housing. Pastor's HRP for council approval. Rich explained the plan which has a higher deductible, same coverage, and a \$4,500 savings. A plan to help some of Pastor's expenses was given to the Treasurer. TIM MADE A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE NEW PLAN, SECONDED BY PAM. MOTION CARRIED. Pastor Steinke is doing Sunday AM Bible Class. Pastor Schmidt is Lutheran Hour representative and will present program to congregation via newsletter, bulletin & possible sermon. Elders will sponsor coffee hours for the month of January. Tim asked the other council member boards to consider doing the same. Vacant council positions are being filled. Church & Child Care website to be updated & revised. Child Care Christmas Program is 12-19-12. All Council members and Elders should attend.

TREASURER: Judy explained the format. She also said our Charlotte County Taxes went down from \$8,310.54 to \$5,810.14. She intends to pay them by the end of November.

HUMAN CARE: Please adopt a guest for the Holidays. Many people are all alone. Teen & youth care notes are on display in the narthex and child care. Stephen Ministry Sunday is 11/18/2012. One name for military Christmas box was recently received. Will be mailed by 11/13/2012. Chaplain Nelson has left the Correctional Institution so there is no one there to receive our religious booklets. 14 people donated blood at last blood drive. 1 unit saves 3 people's lives. Will begin discussion concerning small group ministry in January. 8 families are in need of Thanksgiving dinners. Publix gives a turkey, mashed potatoes, stuffing, cranberry salad & gravy. We are asking the congregation if they will give vegetable, rolls and pumpkin pie to complete the dinner. The Angel Tree will be assembled immediately after Thanksgiving. Greeting cards are now being mailed to our shut ins, upon death of a loved one. If Mary Blakely can receive addresses for the military, they will be included.

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT: A Property Management Board meeting will be scheduled to discuss

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how best to handle the Church's needs while a Chairperson is being located. Request the attendance of the Pastor & the President. An invitation is extended to all Council members. Meeting date will be Sat. @9 AM 12-1-12 in the Fellowship Hall. We are looking forward to members returning from the north and a larger turnout for Property Appreciation Day. Our Child Care building will be professionally pressure washed on Saturday. Recent juvenile activity after hours on Church grounds required Sheriff office to respond. Concern was expressed by one of our Church members who reported more activity after people leave for the evening. Lighting is not completed yet. Michelle Findley will donate the cleaning of the Child Care floors.

ASSIMILATION: Meeting held on Tuesday, Nov. 6th at 10 AM in the Narthex. Our group made decisions concerning our pictorial directory. Pictures will be taken in the Fellowship Hall and will begin taking the pictures right after the first of the year. Bob Buie has agreed to be our software person/editor. Other volunteers outside of our committee members are Carol Carlos, Karen Kirkland, Pam Replinger, Marion Buie, Susan Moore. New members were assigned to a committee member. Our committee will take on this task. Narthex was brought up for discussion with regard to no one calling our committee anymore for permission to display items. Will be writing a request for the bulletin that this be observed once again. Coffee Hour: It was suggested that each volunteer receive a copy of our guidelines prior to serving.

COMMUNITY & PARISH FELLOWSHIP: Outreach projects and Events: The BCPF represented Redeemer at the Annual Safewalk on Dearborn street on Oct. 31st by James & Susan Moore and Rev. Mark Steinke. Thanks to Tommy & Karen Kirkland for setting up and to the members who made candy and cash contributions. Plans are being made for the Rotonda Christmas Parade on Saturday, Dec. 1st at 2 PM. Handouts include pencils, a bag of "goodies" containing 3 golf tees with our name and "Testamint" breath mints. Ty Schulte will construct the float. We renewed our bench contract last month for \$110 a month. The Board feels it is money well spent. We purchased radio advertisement during the week of Nov. 12 thru 16 in recognition of Veteran's Day and in support of our military. The ads aired Mon, Wed, Thurs and Friday on WCTU 104.9 between 7PM-12 PM. We will meet again on Thursday, Nov. 29th in the Fellowship Hall at 6:30 PM.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION: Here are updates from the 10-9-12 meeting. No cradle roll update available. Several members were missing so we did not review our "rally Day" event. The children will be singing "Have No Fear Little Flock" on Oct 28th. Bill Bowers will be assisting. He will also be able to work with the children each Sunday starting Nov. between services. Wendy should send a reminder to the parents of the Daycare children for attendance on 10/29. Children's "Christmas Jubilee" will be on Wed, Dec. 19th at 7 PM. Our next meeting will be on Nov. 13th.

SCHOOL BOARD: Enrollment is up to 76 students. Building is being power washed. Wendy & Lisa reported that the seminar was helpful. A discussion about involving more staff next year or having a trainer brought in for an in-house program. We will be applying for an endowment grant for a concrete bike path, water fountain & bikes. We will use it to supplement the \$2400 grant we received last month. We will be charging per day rates during the Christmas and New Year week so that the families will not be paying for the days we are closed. Child care fees will be going up \$5 per week starting Jan. 1st. Scholarship Committee will be meeting on 11/13. We're catching up on our outstanding bills to the church.

There being no new business Pam motioned to adjourn, Tim seconded. Meeting closed with the singing of the Doxology at 8:55 PM
Respectfully Submitted, Betty Clemens, Acting Secretary

SINGLES LUNCHEON

Due to the Holidays, the Singles Luncheon will be held on Tuesday, January 15th at 11:30 at "Beyond The Sea" located at 3555 S. Access Rd, Englewood. Please sign up in the Narthex no later than Sunday, January 13th. We do wish to have more persons join us for lunch. Give us a try and bring a single friend.

Submitted by Lessie Kirch

MEN'S BREAKFAST



The Men will again be gathering for their monthly breakfast. We will meet the 2nd Monday of each month at Country Hound Café at 7 AM. Come and join us for breakfast and fellowship. All men are welcome to join us. For more information please contact Charles Malecki (941) 697-0976.

STEWARDSHIP

In January we Christians celebrate the Epiphany of our Lord Jesus Christ. This season begins with the visit of the Magi to the village of Bethlehem to come and worship the King and Savior not only of the Jews but also of the Gentiles. Epiphany continues with the baptism of Jesus as part of the plan of His Father to fulfill all righteousness. On the second Sunday after Epiphany we read about the witness of John the Baptist that Jesus is truly the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Jesus is the one on whom the Holy Spirit descended to enable Him to carry out completely the mission of salvation given to Him by His Father. On the third Sunday after Epiphany we recall the desert temptation battle in which Satan did his devilish worst to get Jesus to disobey the will of God. The season of Epiphany concludes with the transfiguration of Jesus when He revealed the splendor of His divine glory to Peter, James and John.

Jesus did not display His divine power in order to show off, but rather to do the will of His Father in heaven. Jesus used His divine power to give glory to God and countless blessings to millions of people who would otherwise perish in hell. In His three-year journey to the

cross Jesus put His love into action. He healed the sick, raised the dead and proclaimed the good news of salvation. And then on the cross He made the supreme sacrifice of giving all—even His life—to fulfill God's plan of salvation.



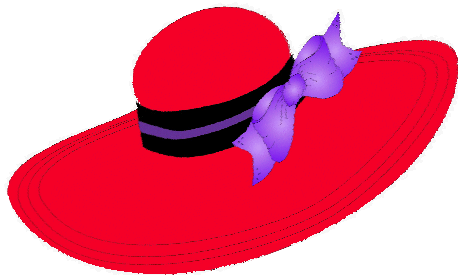
From start to finish Jesus, God's Chief Steward, demonstrated His stewardship perfectly with acts of love.

January is a good time of the year to make some resolutions that honor God and bring blessings to other people through our acts of stewardship. Stewardship begins with a changed heart which results in acts that demonstrate faith and love. As the Apostle John said, ***“Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth.”*** (1 John 3:18)

Epiphany commemorates Jesus showing His love in action. Epiphany is a great time for us Christian stewards to also dedicate all that we are [the children of God] and have [gifts of time, talent and tithes] to bring glory to God and blessings to others.

The Board of Stewardship

REDEEMER RED HATS



The Redeemer Red Hats will have their luncheon on Tuesday, January 22nd at 12:00 Noon at GulfView Grill on Beach Rd. in Englewood. Please see the sign up sheet in the Narthex.

Reminder: The Red Hats Mini Convention at the VFW will be on Thursday February 21st at 12 Noon. This years theme is Country & Western. Cost is \$20 per person payable to Sandy DiStasio by January 15, 2013.

PRAYERS

SHUT-INS: Marjorie Boliere, Gloria Carlson, Evelyn Etheridge, Erv Maki, Clara Mitchell, and Ruth Sutley.

HEALING: Members: Bill Balogh Jr., Don Borwick, Ermand Citrone, Ginny Doenges, Fred Fernald, Carol Haupt, Bernice Heppner, Jane Hoivik, Sandi McGrath, Ron Ratzlaff, Don Roussin, Michael Sanders, Duwayne Schoeneck, Sandy Sita, Edda Specht, Marie Talley, and Ronald Woller.

Friends & Relatives: Lorraine Agens, Michael Aldene, Linny Aspery, Jean Bajner, Grace Blum, Georgia Bush, Jack & Cathy Carlos, Debbie Carr, Esther Clapham, Bobbett Clark, Harry Dahlburg, Lee & Ute Daniels, Carly DeFeos, Renee Dempsey, Jim Diffell, John and Irene DiTommaso, Barb Dumeah, Nick Frees, Manual Galan, Glenn Galway, Nancy Gleis, Malia Grayer, Lucas Hall, Debbie Harrison, Larry Headun, Claudette Hendershot, Joel Heppner, Walter Heppner, Glory Herget, Robin Hincman, David Hirtle, Tom Holt, Stanley & Lynne Jablonski, Carl Jennejahn, Douglas Johnson, Heather Johnson, Rachel Kagay, John Kearns, Mary Krueger, Jim Lane, Denise Lines, Sean Maki, Elsie Malecki, Joe Manson, Pete Mogg, Linda Mohr, Mike Morrissey, Kaye Gene Mortenson, Maureen Nesvacil, Dan Niemann, Darwin & Noreen Oliver, Charles Pentecost Jr., Mary Raines, Delaney Saunders, Ryan Sheahan, Joey Sigfrid, Nancy Sly, Debbie Speer Smith, Virginia Stanley, Marj Sterriker, Gary Stokes, Eva Tabbitas, Teresa Tormala, Samantha Jo Ann Toth, George Vespa, Helen Weishaar, Gordan Winkel, Reece Withers, Dick Voelker, Angel Zavala.

Military Personnel: Daniel Anderson, Matthew Anderson, Adam Buchner, Eric Byrne, Michael Canavan, Kevin Copeman, Christopher Dutch, Michael Garza, Roger Hammond, Christopher Hankins, Jonathan Hibbard, Brian Jackson, Katherine Janssen, Keith Janssen, Josh Johnson, Joshua Jones, Brett Keck, Jesse Krone, Michael Monson, Jesse Morse, Scott Senna, Brandon Smith, Jeremy Twombly, Matthew Walenta, and Charles 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.

AROUND THE WORLD

HANDAN CHURCH in Hebei Province, China, is a partner congregation of Lutheran Hour Ministries (LHM) China. It uses 'Equipping the Saints' (ETS) workshops to train lay volunteers to share the Gospel at the grass roots. Last August, Handan Church welcomed 261 new believers into the body of Christ. LHM also produces and distributes [MP3 players](#) that contain Chinese-language [Bibles](#) and [audio sermons](#), [Bible studies](#), [hymnals](#) and [music](#). We think about new tools, new life, new Christians as we share the Gospel in the new year. On Feb. 3, Redeemer will join congregations across Synod in having LHM Sunday. LHM is a valuable tool for us to spread the story of salvation both locally and around the world.

Submitted by Rev. Earl Schmidt, LHM Ambassador at Redeemer

ALTAR GUILD

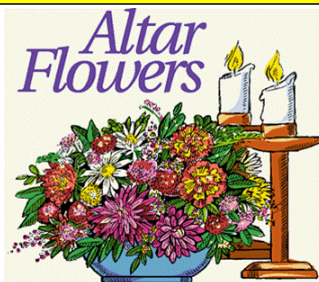
Sign your name next to your chosen date and the reason for placement: Birthday, Anniversary, In Memory Of, To the Glory of God, etc.

You may include the \$25.00 payment in your offering envelope.

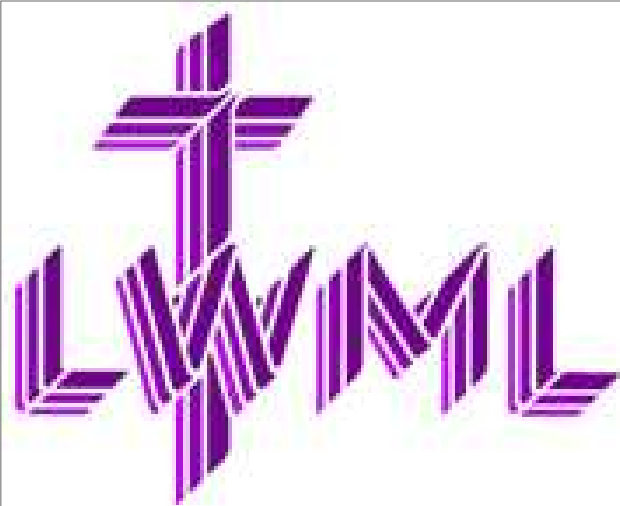
Call the office with any special wording for the Bulletin listing.

You may take the flowers home or leave them for pastor to take to a shut-in.

Submitted by Carol Sheahan



LADIES GUILD/LWML



MITE BOX in Narthex Jan. 6

Through the MITES collected by men, women, and children, missionary efforts are supported not only here in Englewood and Florida, but worldwide. Missions for education, prison support, seminary student scholarships, food banks, Braille workers; Bible translators and much more are all part of the grants that are funded by the Mighty Mite. Please drop your coins in the large MITE BOX and pick up a complimentary BOX and start your own "Mission" effort today. It will be a joy in knowing that your coins helped fund a grant of \$10,000 for each Food Bank at Concordia Sem. St. Louis and Concordia Sem., Ft. Wayne. Thanks to all who have given so faithfully. May God continue to bless the work of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML).

THRIVENT ANNUAL YARD SALE

It's that time again! Friday, January 25th from 8:00 AM - 2:00 PM and Saturday, January 26th from 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM.

Please start saving your paper grocery sacks for Saturday's \$1 per bag clothing sale.

Let's get those closets, cabinets and cupboards re-organized. Redecorating or buying new furniture before the holidays? We'll take the old stuff. Please, no computers, printers or large appliances. Almost everything else will be welcome, except of course, live animals.

You may begin bringing your yard sale donations to Fellowship Hall on Tuesday, Jan. 22nd.

For more information, please call Diane McGrath (Thrivent Advocate) at 414-305-4581.

Submitted by Diane McGrath



HUMAN CARE

The Human Care Board wishes you all a blessed New Year. We have some new topics for the new year to discuss. Any new ideas that anyone has for the Human Care Board to consider, please contact Carol Carlos 941-255-3354. We would be happy to take them under consideration. The congregation has been so very supportive this past year and it is greatly appreciated. THANK YOU!

"Keep on loving each other as brothers."—Hebrews 13:1

Submitted by The Human Care Board

CLASSIFIEDS

Beautician/Manicurist	Debbie Balogh Linda Pontello	Purple Palace Purple Palace	941-416-4688 941-475-0731
Sales—Rentals	Pineapple Gulf Properties—Glenda McDorman, Owner/Broker (Lessie Kirch's Daughter) 350 S. Indiana Road Englewood, FL 34223. Office: 941-473-0300, Cell: 941-330-7922.		
Avon-Sales	Anyone interested in purchasing any Avon products, please see Susan Moore in the Church Office or call 941-254-0497 to order or to get a catalog.		
Handyman	Work any handyman job from A-Z, nothing is too big or small. Please call John Toth at 941-697-1670!		
Cleaning Services	Free estimates! Please contact Sheila Murphy at 941-473-1747.		
Lawn Care	Call Todd Armstrong at 941-961-7584 for your lawn care needs.		
Construction	Call Rob Long! A.C.S., Inc. - Licensed General Contractor - Anything from full re models, full lanai's, window and door installation and ALL phases of construction. State certified licensed and insured. Please call for a free estimate at 941-475-5008 or 941-232-6606!		
Real Estate	SURF & SAND REALTY - Pat Whipple, Realtor 2350 N. Beach Road, Unit 3B, Englewood 34223. I'd love to help you find your perfect home or sell it, because I really care. Please contact me at 941-882-2725 or (941) 474-7755!		
For Sale	Sears Chest Freezer - 22 cubic feet - \$250.00 Like New. 2 Twin Adjust. (head & foot) Beds w/ Vibrator. All Bedding included - \$400.00. Like New. Lowrey Carnival Organ with Bench. All Pedals & Accompaniments - \$6,000.00 Like New. For further information please contact SANDY SITA 941-475-8116.		

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

Jan. 6th:	Joe Carlos & Ed Sheahan Kevin Hopkins & Ed Doenges
Jan. 13th:	Dick Clemens & Ray Janssen George Cancellieri & Tim Frees
Jan. 20th:	Joe Carlos & Ed Sheahan Dale Whipple & Ty Schulte
Jan. 27th:	Dick Clemens & Ray Janssen Bob Buie & Tim Byrne

Submitted by Assimilation

COFFEE HOUR

Jan. 6th:	Bob Buie Tim Byrne
Jan. 13th:	Dale Whipple Ty Schulte
Jan. 20th:	Kevin Hopkins Ed Doenges
Jan. 27th:	George Cancellieri Tim Frees

Submitted by Assimilation

STEPHEN MINSITRY

The Stephen Ministers wish you all a blessed New Year. We hope that each one of you will pray about Stephen Ministry. This is the first year we have no new Stephen Ministers; therefore, no class will begin in January. We would like each of you to consider the Stephen Minister program. We would be happy to accommodate you at any time to begin classes. The classes are easy, fun and inspirational. We put out a call, especially to our new members. If you would like to be a Christian friend to someone then Stephen Ministry is for you. We are happy to explain further the Stephen Ministry program. Please call any one of us at any time for further information. Carol Carlos 941-255-3354, Nancy Hall 941-473-5547, Carol Haupt 941-460-8830.

"Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins."—1 Peter 4:8

LADIES GUILD/LWML

Due to the holidays, the Ladies Guild will not meet until the second Wednesday, January 9th at 1:00 PM. Our Program will be presented by Tim & Catherine Byrne. This is titled "REFUSE TO BE A VICTIM". This is a very informative program with regard to your safety at Home, Personal Security in your Automobile. Some of you may have seen this when it was presented in the Fellowship Hall in November. If so, it will be well worth hearing again. We look forward in seeing many present. Dessert and drinks will be served at 12:30 PM, before the meeting, so please come join us.

The craft shelves have been doing very well. We presently have several items, but can use more. If you are starting the New Year off right and cleaning out, remember the Kraft Korner. Thanks for all your help. It is appreciated.

Submitted by Lessie Kirch

BLOOD DRAW

BLOOD DRAW-DECEMBER 2, 2012

This is the e-mail I received on December 3rd from Shauna Francis, representative of Florida Blood Center:

WOW! What a fantastic blood drive yesterday! We projected to collect 13 units and collected 23! This is a possible total of 69 lives saved!

Thank you to all who made this so successful.

Redeemer had twenty-one volunteer donors, but two of the donors gave double-red blood cells which equals two units and they will be ineligible next time. We even had two parents from our Child Care give this time. Five were first-time donors and six have given ten or more units.

To donate double-red blood cells (ALYX) a special machine is used and the needle is smaller. It takes a few minutes longer but you only need to donate every four months. To do this, a male needs to be at least 5'1" tall and weigh at least 130 pounds. A female must be at least 5'5" tall and weigh at least 150 pounds.

The BIG RED BUS will be in our Redeemer parking lot on Sunday, January 27, 2013 from 8:30 AM until 1:00 PM.

Submitted by Carol Sheahan

TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS

You are all very familiar with the phrase 'The Gospel in a Nutshell' right? Well, do you know where in Scripture that summarization is located? Of course! John 3:16! "For God so loved the world that He gave His only-begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life." Do you know how many Books of the Bible have a 3:16? Of the 66 Canonical Books, 17 do not have a 3:16. That means that 49 of them do. We will discover from Genesis to Revelation what God speaks to us through these 3:16 verses. But, let the reader understand, we will not take these scripture verses and let them stand alone. Some of them can't. Context is an important tool in interpreting God's holy Word. So join us on **Tuesday Mornings at 10:00 AM** in the Fellowship Hall for this very interesting, yet out of the ordinary Bible Class.

THREE SIXTEEN

LADIES THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS CONTINUES

Notice the picture of this adorable baby. If money or time or age were not an issue, would you consider adopting him? Of course you would. Now can you picture in your mind what sin would look like? If you're like me, you would probably picture the most disgusting thing you could possibly imagine. So how do suppose God sees sin? Does He see sin the way we pictured sin in our minds?

God's Word clearly states, 'all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God' (Romans 3:23). So if you're a sinner, do you think God sees you as an adorable little child like the one pictured here? Or do you suppose He sees you as a disgusting little creature? Fear not! God has called you out of darkness and brought you into His marvelous light. He has adopted you as His own adorable child. He loves you.

Ladies of Redeemer: Come hear and see more about how God has adopted you as His own child. Come also to hear and see how He revealed His great love for all mankind through the life, suffering, death, and resurrection of His Son Jesus Christ.

We will once again use *GOOD NEWS* magazine as our guide through this amazing study of God's love for you and all humanity through 'ADOPTION'. Class continues on **Thursday Mornings at 10:00 AM** in the Fellowship Hall. All ladies are welcome to join us. You may also invite your girlfriend, sister, mother, and daughter.



CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

The children of Redeemer Lutheran Church & Child Care held their Christmas Program on December 19, 2012. Many thanks to the Child Care and Sunday School Staff for all the hard work that was put in to get the children ready. What a *“Christmas Jubilee”* it was.



**CHRISTMAS
JUBILEE
DECEMBER 19, 2012**





Redeemer Lutheran Child Care wishes you a **HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

January 2013

Bible Lessons

Chapel is NOW on
Tuesday's at 3:45

1/2 The Visit of the
Wisemen

Matthew 2

1/8 The Boy Jesus in the
Temple

Luke 2

1/15 The Baptism of Jesus

Matthew 3

1/22 The Disciples Follow
Jesus

Matthew 4

1/29 Jesus Changes Water
into Wine

John 2



Heavenly Father, thank you for leading the Wise Men to see and worship Jesus. Lead me to see Jesus and worship Him as my Savior. Amen.

Birthdays

Isaac 1/6

Isabella R. 1/12

Dimitri 1/14

Isabella F. 1/15

Michael 1/15

Reece 1/16

Grayson 1/20

Brinnan 1/24

Emma W. 1/26



Needed Supplies

Snacks, Batteries, Paper Towels, Bleach, Baby Wipes & craft supplies. Thank you.



A very special thank you to Gary and Jonti Lute for the BEAUTIFUL banners of Bible Stories. What an incredible gift!

They are displayed in our hallway. Please stop by the child care to see them!

What We Are Learning

1/2 Winter

1/7 How do animals grow and change?

1/14 How do plants grow and change?

1/21 How do people grow and change?

1/28 How do living things grow and change?

Santa Lunch



Thank you to all the members of Redeemer Lutheran Church who gave a gift off of the Angel tree for the Santa Lunch! The children had a wonderful time and loved their gifts!

Submitted by Wendy Harvath

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REV. JAMES T. KRESS, SR.

REDEEMER REPORTER

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WORSHIP SERVICES:

November—April: 8:00 & 10:30 AM

Sunday School: 9:15 AM

Bible Study: 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.