

# REDEEMER REPORTER

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH - MARCH 2012

## "A POETIC PENITENTIAL SEASON"

The Season of Lent is very much underway. The season began with Ash Wednesday on February 22<sup>nd</sup> continuing through Holy Week (April 1<sup>st</sup> -6<sup>th</sup>) and concluding with the celebration of Easter Day, April 8<sup>th</sup>. So, the entire month of March we live through the season of Lent.

I realize that I have already directed our Lenten devotion to the study of Luther's Small Catechism I would like to also draw your attention to something I discovered in my daily reading of the Catechism. In the fifth chief principle part, Confession & Absolution, I ran across a hand written note pointing to seven penitential psalms. What's a penitential psalm? It is a psalm that expresses extreme sorrow and remorse over sin by the psalm writer. These are the Seven Penitential Psalms 6, 32, 38, 51, 102, 130, and 143. King David happens to be the author of 5 of the 7 penitential psalms.

These seven psalms have served as a special source of prayer and reflection during Lent, for centuries. The tone of their honest pleading is compelling and invites us to turn to our Lord with the same candor and desire.

Our struggles, our sins, our "enemies" - and the ways we describe them - may be different, but these psalms can draw us into coming before our God, as sinners, with real needs. They can help us come to know God's love and mercy. Here is a closer look at each of the seven poetic penitential psalms:

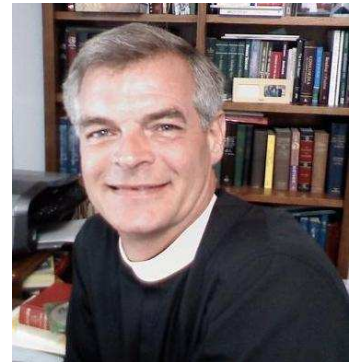
Psalm 6 – Here David pleads with the Lord for deliverance from anxiety, physical discomfort, and sickness caused by a growing awareness of his sinful condition. Luther referred to such mental torment as *Anfechtung*, a German term for the state of despair and doubt we human beings experience when coming to terms with the consequences of our failures to meet the demands of God's Law. Scripture clearly reveals that the result of sin is death (Romans 6:23), but how seriously do we take this threat? Consider this: nearly 2,000 years ago, our sinful condition was so desperate that God sent His only-begotten Son to pay the price. God be praised, right? Through faith in Christ's redemptive work, our

sins have been forgiven.

Psalm 32 – David shows here the physical, mental, and spiritual implications of being silent in sin. Luther writes: "The beginning of this psalm teaches two things: first, that all are in sins (no one is righteous) and no one is blessed; second, that no one is capable of meriting the forgiveness of sin, but it is the Lord alone who forgives freely by not imputing (guilt). God calls us to confess our sins quickly with contrite hearts in order to receive Absolution. Only He can relieve the troubled heart as St. John writes, "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness (1 John 1:9).

Psalm 51 – David's most well known psalm, this anguished cry of confession from the depths of guilt finds God's absolution and renewal on the certain footing of grace alone. Sin is an inheritance, born in us, ever damaging us. None of our works can ever set us free from terror, despair, or death. However, God has blotted out even the worst of our sins (adultery and murder) by Jesus' sacrifice. "The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise" (v. 17).

Psalm 102 – This orphan psalm (author unknown), reveals that the tears, fever, lost appetite, despair, and doubt are eerily identical to what we go through when a personal crisis erupts in our life or a disaster rips through our town or nation. Yet it is written with confident hope because attention is turned to the God who listens to the pleas of the destitute. When you lament, turn your attention to God's answer to these prayers: Jesus Christ. He stepped into our world and took on our groans and death, restoring hope at the appointed time on Easter morning.



Continued on Page 3

## ***THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER***

For some strange reason, the onset of the Lenten Season led me to rethink the 3 R's. Most of us (smile) can remember when that was referring to reading, riting, and rithmetic as we grew up in a different era. Tonight, I thought of a new set of 3 R's (actually 4) that represents the onset of the season.

**Reflect:** the time of the year to remember the past, think about the present, and look forward to the future in our personal lives and that of our congregation.

**Reconcile:** the time to reconcile with each other and with our God.

**Repent:** the time to truly repent for our sins and inadequacies and to forgive one another.

The Lenten season culminates with the fourth R. Easter and our Redemption through the death and resurrection of our Lord and Savior; the greatest gift of all. Please think of these 4 R's as we move forward as a congregation.

Thanks to Ray Altmann, Margie Cypher, and Earl Stuck for their hard work on our revision of the Constitution; it was a very difficult task. Your church council hopes to finalize the revision and have copies in the narthex for your review by the end of March. The voters will be asked to approve the revised constitution at our April meeting.

In closing, I would like to once again remind all of you that your help is needed on various committees. Men and women are needed for the Altar Guild and ushers, men are needed to be Communion Assistants, and there are needs on many of our committees. Please give prayerful consideration to filling these needs.

*Respectfully submitted, President Rich Kueker*



Pastor	Rev. James Kress
Winter Pastor	Rev. Earl Schmidt
Child Care Director	Wendy Horvath
Office Secretary	Jennifer Steele
Organists	Bill Bowers Lanette Schmidt
Choir Director	Doris Dykhuizen

### OFFICERS

President	Rich Kueker
Vice President	
Treasurer	Judy Murphy
Secretary	Dorothy Sinowetski

### BOARDS

Head Elder	Tim Byrne
Assimilation	Deb Kueker
Property Mgmt	Charlie Vovcsko
Christian Ed.	Pam Replinger
Human Care	Carol Carlos
Outreach	Carol Haupt
School Board	Bill Bowers
Stewardship	
Youth	
Financial Secretary	Karen Kirkland

### CLUBS/GUILDS

Ladies Guild	Doris Dykhuizen
Men's Group	Bob Mortenson

## STEPHEN MINISTRY

The Stephen Ministers have been busy visiting their care receivers, making visits to members hospitalized when possible hospitalizations have been shortened ; therefore, sometimes the Stephen Minister does not have the opportunity to make the visit). We also visit members in long term care facilities. Also grief booklets are mailed to our members who have lost loved ones.

We will be completing our Stephen Minister training on March 15. The commissioning will be on Sunday March 18. We are very pleased to announce our new Stephen Ministers - Lynda Christoffers and Jane Schurr. They have been an asset to our training and we are very enthusiastic about having them as part of our Stephen Ministry.

"Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another".  
Hebrews 10:25

*Submitted by Carol Carlos*

## "A POETIC PENITENTIAL SEASON" - *Continued from Page 1*

Psalm 130 – The psalmist here is in the state of emotional desolation, overwhelmed with misery and guilt. Yet, as he realizes God hears his pleas and grants him full forgiveness, his darkness slowly gives way to light and the hope of "plentiful redemption" (v. 7). If we are honest with ourselves, we must admit the depths of our sinfulness. When we are overwhelmed, God hears our pleas for mercy. He does not remember our sins, but rather grants us free forgiveness through the work of Christ, who gives us hope. Christ plunges into our depths to raise us in salvation.

Psalm 143 – David here pleads for God's mercy, admitting that neither he nor anyone else can stand before God's just judgment. He trusts in God's righteousness and in His name, not his own. This penitential psalm is a profound description of a repentant heart, which receives God's grace. The psalmist, giving up on himself, trusts in God's "steadfast love" (v. 8).

You must agree, after reading the summaries of these penitential psalms, they are applicable to our everyday life. I suggest that because there are seven (7) of these psalms, you might read one of them for each day of the week while you continue to devote your Lenten Season to the reading of Luther's Small Catechism. In doing so, you will realize the beauty of the season of Lent as a poetic penitential season.

In His Service,  
Pastor Kress

## REMINDER:

**Sunday, March 11th**

**Begins Daylight Savings Time**

**Be sure to change your clocks  
forward one hour**

**Saturday evening!**



## QUIZ

Jesus once took three friends to a special rendezvous. When they stopped at a certain place, Jesus was changed before them. His face had a glow and his clothes appeared to be dazzling white. His friends suddenly felt the presence of Moses, the lawgiver, and Elijah, one of the great prophets. Jesus' friends, Peter, James and John, heard a voice from a cloud that said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him" (Matthew 17:1-8, ESV).

What do we call this special event?

- A. The Annunciation
- B. The Resurrection
- C. The Transfiguration
- D. The Incarnation

Answer: C

## PALM CROSSES FOR MARCH 25TH

**Please lend a hand and help us save our REDEEMER TRADITION.**

On Friday, February 24<sup>th</sup>, from 12:30 to around 2pm, Marie Talley will be holding a class in the Fellowship Hall on making crosses out of Palmetto plants. Marie will teach us how to cut the Palmetto fronds, clean and shape them into the beautiful crosses we give out on Palm Sunday. All of the supplies will be provided at this class.

We need volunteers to learn how to make the crosses so this warm and loving tradition, which was started in the 1970's, will not be lost.

We will need about 400 crosses for our congregation and would also like to give them out at our child care. At one time, Marie made over 1,000 crosses and gave them to other churches also.

We would like many folks to come out this Friday and they in turn, can teach others.

If you are interested in helping, please call Carol at 941-875-6312 or email [buddy.carol@gmail.com](mailto:buddy.carol@gmail.com).



## SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

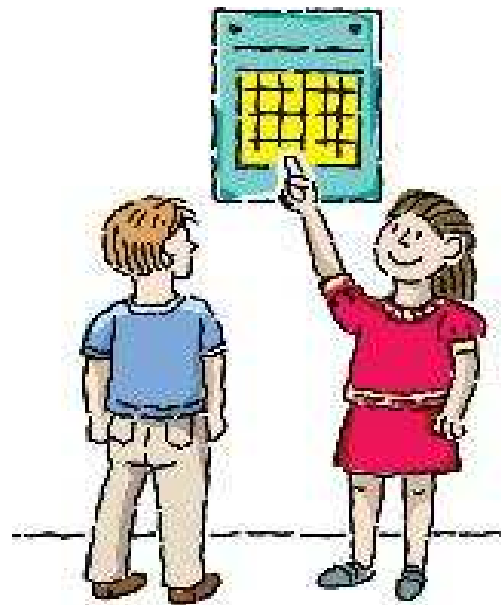
Hello, I am Tricia Hopkins – your newly appointed Sunday School Superintendent. I wanted to take time to acquaint you with your staff and keep you informed about the goings on in the Sunday School program here at Redeemer Lutheran.

We have a team of loving and dedicated adults who teach the Word of God to our youth every Sunday. They are Carol Vovcsko, Kevin Hopkins, Ty Schulte, and I. Many hours of preparation goes into each lesson to help make God's message resonate within each child. I personally would like to thank each of my fellow educators for their devotion, time, and effort.

Lessons are taught using Concordia Publishing's *Growing In Christ* materials. Throughout three years, the children will learn all the major stories of the Bible. Plus, lessons draw connections to the Small Catechism and hymnal. Children will begin to understand the confessions, traditions, and language of the Lutheran Church.

If you are interested in teaching or assisting with Sunday School We welcome anyone who would like to attend Sunday School. Jesus said, "Let the little children come to Me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven." – Matthew 19:14. If you or someone you know has a child who would like to attend please come see us. We meet in the Fellowship Hall every Sunday at 9:15 AM, class will be concluded by 10:15 AM.

*Submitted by Tricia Hopkins*



**Sunday  
School**

## MY STORY TO SHARE

My name is Larry Jarling. I was born, raised and reside in Danville, IL.

My grandparents and parents were Lutheran and I'm sure my German ancestors before them were Lutheran.

As a baptized Lutheran I always knew I was going to heaven. But, did I have strong enough faith that could guarantee that?

I met and married my wife Sandy and we had two sons. When we met, Sandy was a devoted Baptist. Since both of us felt that we wanted to attend the same church, and raise our family in the same religion, after much prayer Sandy was confirmed a Lutheran. We were and still are active in our congregation. Our boys attend the same Lutheran grade school that I had.

I didn't realize how my faith would be tested until I started having multiple health issues.

Of all my issues the most critical was in 1998 when I was diagnosed with tonsil cancer. I received radiation and chemotherapy. In setting up my treatment schedule the doctor asked me if I had insurance. I told him I had Medicare. He said that Medicare covered 80% and I would be responsible for 20% and that 20% of a lot of money is a lot of money. Sandy had just applied for and was hired that same day ironically at the hospital where I would be treated. However, her insurance that would cover me would not start until she started work which would be two weeks. Sandy called the lady that had hired her and explained the situation. The lady told her she could start the next day and consequently I had immediate coverage. Is there any doubt that the Lord took care of that situation?

The doctor told me that I would suffer the "mother of all sore throats" from the radiation and that my type of cancer was rare and in most cases would return in five years. I can say he underestimated the severity of the sore throat. Sandy said there were several times they thought I would not make it. During the period of my fight with cancer there were times I felt like giving up because I couldn't handle it anymore. Then one day, among the get well cards I received, there was one from Sandy's sister that changed my whole attitude. I carry the verse with me and I would like to share it with you. This is how the card read:

*Sometimes it's hard to give up control and ask God to take care of everything. But that's exactly what He wants us to do. For when we let go of our problems, then he can take us by the hand and lead us. I know it's difficult to let go when things aren't good and I wish I could make everything alright for you, but only God can do that. He knows which pathway you should take, and He knows where all the rock places are. So trust Him to guide you through all of this. Give Him your burdens, give Him your hand and He will never let you fail.*

From that day forward I have put my complete trust in Him and turned all my burdens over to Him. I know He will care for me in His own way that is best for me. For 12 years now I have been cancer free and my Oncologist sees no reason why it would return. Of course as you can tell, I have side effects of the radiation. My speech is affected due to no saliva and unable to swallow properly. This has caused me to be on a feeding tube and unable to eat anything. I am unable to turn my neck properly since the radiation had caused fibrosis.

It's strange how God gives us hardship that provides us the opportunity to witness for Him. In one of my chemo sessions I was given one of those opportunities. Everyone receiving chemo sits around the room in recliners. This particular day we were having discussions when a gentleman asked me if I went to church. I told him yes and he said that he used to but he no longer went to church and he was afraid of dying. I told him that even though he had not gone to church in awhile, God still loved him and would forgive him just like he did the thief on the cross. Jesus told the thief that "today you will be with Me in paradise". So put your trust in the Lord and he will care for you. Two weeks later I saw his obituary in the paper. I met his son shortly thereafter. He and I had gone to high school together and he said to me "Larry I want to thank you for what you did for my father. My dad was very depressed and fearful because he no longer attended church and was bound to go to Hell. Your words of encouragement and assurance changed his attitude. He said he was now comfortable knowing God was with him".

By several people I have been told that I am an inspiration. They say, "How can you stand not being able to eat, especially during holidays". My reply is, "I have put my trust in the Lord that he will provide what is best for me. He promises not to give me more than I am able to handle. I am still alive and able to do most things that I want.

So that's my story. I was born and baptized for the remission of my sins. The Lord's grace has kept me in faith with the continue promise of forgiveness. I know that he will keep me under his wing until "I get to go to heaven".

# **REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHILD CARE GUARDIAN ANGEL GOLF SCRAMBLE**

**LONG MARSH GOLF COURSE**

**ROTONDA WEST, FL**

**SATURDAY, MARCH 31, 2012**

**WITH AN 8:30 AM SHOT GUN START**

**\$65 PER PERSON**

**GOLF SCRAMBLE INCLUDES:  
CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST,  
18- HOLES WITH CART,  
LUNCH AFTER GOLF  
PRIZES**

**TO SIGN-UP FOR GOLF OR TO SPONSOR A HOLE  
PLEASE CALL:**

**CAROL HAUPT AT 460-8830  
OR LISA KRESS AT 941-889-8938**





## ***FROM THE TREASURER'S DESK***

### **2011 Church Actual vs. Budget Through Dec. 31st, 2011**

*Income Budget*  
\$22,138.09

*Income Received*  
\$30,557.57

*Expenses*  
\$17,746.27

*The Newsletter deadline for the April Newsletter is March 18th. Please have all your submissions to the church office by that time. Thank you. Electronic submissions are best sent to [redemerfl@verizon.net](mailto:redemerfl@verizon.net)*

## **PROPERTY APPRECIATION DAY**

Please join us for our monthly "Property Appreciation" Day on the second Saturday of the month, March 10th!!! Join us in keeping our buildings and properties beautiful. There's a little something to do for anyone willing to help... For more information please contact Charlie Vovcsko at 941-266-5118. THANK YOU!-Property Management

## **QUILTS TO FORT WAYNE SEMINARY**

The Quilters have completed many quilts and some are given to a Seminarian student and his family. These families are usually from warmer overseas climates and have not experienced the harsh Indiana winters. If anyone could find a spot in their vehicle to deliver several quilts to the Ft. Wayne Seminary it would be deeply appreciated. Please call Georgia Lang 941-474-3317 or Vicky Davis 941-473-7522.

## **KRISTINE STOUT HANDBELL CONCERT**

**Sunday, April 15, 2012 -- 3:00 p.m. - Englewood United Methodist Church (Free-Will Offering)**

Kristine Stout's traveling handbell ministry takes her all over the U.S. sharing her talents. Seeing her manipulate the handbells is like watching a musical ballet. Kristine will masterfully play 37 handbells, accompanied by her own beautiful recorded keyboard accompaniments. This is one event YOU will not want to miss! ALL men, women and children are invited to attend. COME and bring your friends!!

## **LUTHERAN WOMEN'S MISSIONARY LEAGUE**

The Annual LWML Spring Rally will be April 14, 2012 at Beautiful Savior Church in Sarasota. Please SAVE THE DATE. We will carpool from the church or take the church van. More details later.

Thank you!

## **LENT AND REPENTANCE**

Lent is a season of repentance. But for many of us, "repentance" is an offensive word. It sounds so remorseful.

In reality, it isn't remorseful at all. The root word for "repentance" is the Greek word metanoia, from which our word "metamorphosis" comes. The great image of this is the butterfly emerging from its cocoon; the caterpillar being transformed into new life. No one is remorseful about that! Nor should we be with repentance, which involves leaving the past and emerging into new life.



**REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING****January 9, 2012**

Present: Pastor Kress, Bill Bowers, Rich Kueker, Karen Kirkland, Carol Haupt, Betty Foster, Charlie Vovcsko, Pat Luedtke, Deb Kueker, Carol Carlos, Pam Replinger, Dorothy Sinowetski

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by President Rich Kueker. Pastor Kress opened with a prayer.

**MINUTES:** The minutes of the Special Council Meeting of December 5th and regular meeting of December 12th were presented. BILL BOWERS MOVED TO ACCEPT BOTH MINUTES AS PRESENTED. KAREN KIRKLAND SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED.

**CALENDAR:** The calendar for February was updated.

**REPORTS****PASTOR:**

- Election: Vacancies that need to be filled: Vice President, Stewardship, Youth, Associate Member of School Board, 1 Audit Committee, 4 Nomination Committee.
- There was a fire on 2 lots across the street, the power and telephones were off. Rich will call Verizon to see if they would reduce our bill for the time of no service.
- At the circuit meeting, Rev. Winkle cannot be the Circuit Counselor. We nominated Rev. Redman, and he declined. We now nominate Rev. Stephen Gaulke.
- Membership: Remove by death: Ashley Schultz. Add Joe & Paula Maramonte and Rev. Mark & Lorrie Steinke. KAREN KIRKLAND MOVED, DEB SECONDED TO ACCEPT THESE MEMBERSHIP CHANGES, MOTION CARRIED.
- There will be weddings on February 4th and 11th.
- Pastor Schmidt will preach one Sunday each month and teach Bible Class between services.

**ELDERS:**

- Tim was absent, Pastor reported that Tim has requested use of the Fellowship Hall for his wedding reception and would like to serve beer and wine. The Elders have given their approval. BILL BOWERS MADE THE MOTION, PAM REPLINGER SECONDED TO APPROVE THE USE OF THE FELLOWSHIP HALL FOR TIM'S RECEPTION AND TO SERVE BEER AND WINE. MOTION CARRIED. There was one opposed.
- Dancing with the Stars has also requested permission to serve beer and wine. The Elders have given their approval. KAREN KIRKLAND MADE THE MOTION, CAROL CARLOS SECONDED TO ALLOW BEER AND WINE TO BE SERVED AT THE DANCING WITH THE STARS. MOTION CARRIED. There was one opposed.

**TREASURER:** Report Attached. Betty Foster reported that expenses are way over Budget. Pat Luedtke will fill in until Judy Murphy is well.

**HUMAN CARE:** Carol Carlos reported their meetings will be on the 4th Wednesday of each month.

**ASSIMILATION:** Deb Kueker reported they hope to do good things this year. The sponsors will be more aware of the new members and visitors. Many people have signed up for the new member dinner.

**OUTREACH:** Carol reported over 120 people have signed up for the New Member Dinner. Boards will report on their work. CAROL MADE A MOTION, CHARLIE SECONDED FOR PERMISSION TO USE ABOUT \$300 FROM DEDICATED FUNDS TO HELP COVER EXPENSES. MOTION CARRIED.

**SCHOOL BOARD:** Bill reported that a payment of \$15,000 was made to the playground company. It was suggested that a copy of the Child Care P & L be brought to council meetings.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

It was determined that the Mission Budget should be divided this way: \$2000 for Missionary Carlos, \$250 each to two seminary students, and \$500 to the district.

**CORRESPONDANCE:** A Christmas card was received from Thrivent.

Pastor received a request from a family in need. \$750 was given to help her with rent and some utility bills. She wrote a letter thanking us for this help, she was very appreciative and has offered to do something for us a repayment for our help.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30pm with a prayer, the Lord's Prayer and the Doxology.

*Respectfully submitted, Dorothy Sinowetski, Congregation Secretary*



## STEWARDSHIP

### "TIMES AND SEASONS"

Genesis 1:14 (NIV) reads: *And God said, "Let there be lights in the expanse of the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them serve as signs to mark seasons, and days and years..."*

In the month of March we experience times and seasons close up. On Sunday, March 11, most places in the United States will begin daylight savings time. On Tuesday, March 20, spring begins. Times and seasons are very clearly the creation of a God of order and the Maker of heaven and earth. The seasons of spring, summer, autumn and winter bring a lot of variety to our weather and to our natural surroundings. The seasons are connected to seedtime and harvest. The days that were so short in the winter stretch out in the summer.

Ecclesiastes 3:1 (NIV) says: *"There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven..."* As Christian stewards who have been given the privilege and responsibility of managing God's creation, we understand that we are stewards at all times and in all seasons. Perhaps farmers understand stewardship better than others of us but, regardless of our station in life, we are to make the most of the times and seasons and manage them in ways that are pleasing to God and provide blessings for others as well as ourselves.

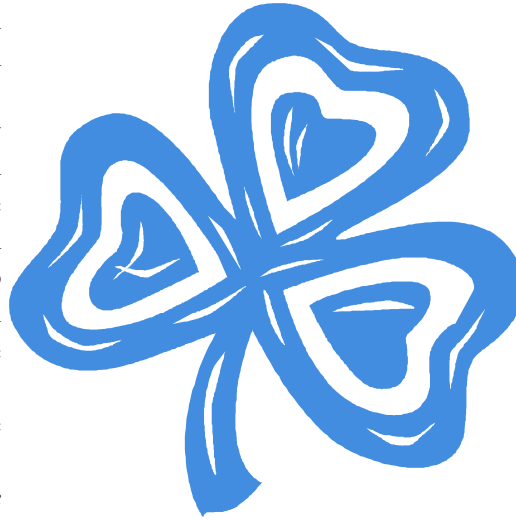
The last of our LCMS Biblical Stewardship Principles states: *"God's stewards live with an awareness of the*

*present and future, of time and eternity."* This means that we live intentionally in the light of God's eternal purpose while being firmly committed to His rule in the here and now.

1 Timothy 6:17-19 (NIV) explains our stewardship in these terms: *"Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life."*

Wouldn't it be something if everyone lived according to these words! As God's stewards we can lead the way and provide a living model of what it means to be stewards, or managers, of all of life and life's resources, including money, property, talents, time and so much more. Our good stewardship will bring glory to God and many blessings to others as well as ourselves. Let's resolve, with the Holy Spirit's power and leading, to be good stewards of all things in all times and seasons!

Enjoy the beautiful season of spring and the longer days of sunlight.



### CARING NETWORK MEETING!!!

**When: March 23rd (Friday)**

**Time: 10:00 AM**

**Where: Fellowship Hall**

The following please mark your calendar: Elma Cancellieri, Vickie Fernald, Sybil Grahl, Diane McGrath, Pat Luedtke, Rebecca Fernandez, Lisa Kress, Mary Ann Sochacki, Sandy Sita, Jane Hoivik, Dottie LaMere, Clara Jo Toth, Deb Kueker, Sam Jolly, Ray Janssen, Carol Sheahan, Lillian Miles and Judy Scarangella.

This meeting is very important. I have new materials ready for distribution. We only meet once a year and I am asking each of you to make every effort to attend. Thank you for your cooperation. If you have any questions or cannot attend, please contact Lessie Kirch.

## PRAYERS

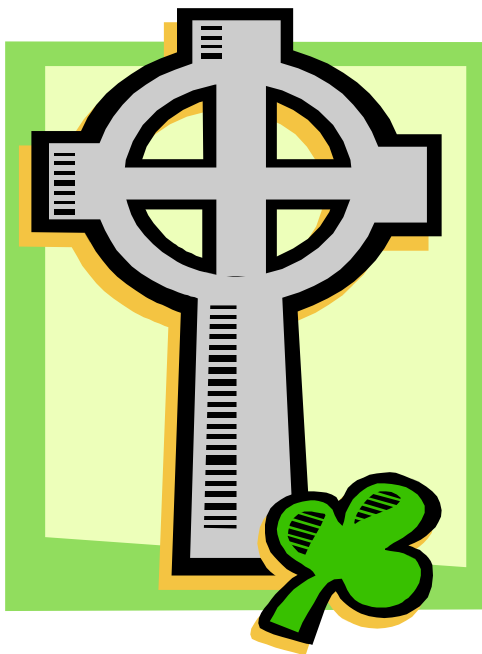
**SHUT-INS:** Marjorie Boliere, Gloria Carlson, Evelyn Etheridge, Erv Maki, Jim Prather, and Ruth Sutley.

**HEALING: Members:** Bob Aldene, Kathryn Demma, Bob Johnson, Cliff Larsen, Jim Libke, Gary Lute, Sandy McGrath, Clara Mitchell, Herb Petersen, Don Plesner, Ron Ratzlaff, Michael Sanders, Duwayne Schoeneck, Marie Talley, Fred Toth, Ronald Woller, KC Wright.

**Friends & Relatives:** Lorraine Agens, Linny Aspery, Jean Bajner, Mary Beaber, Grace Blum, Georgia Bush, Jack & Cathy Carlos, Debbie Carr, Bobbett Clark, Carly DeFeos, Renee Dempsey, John & Irene DiTommaso, Alyssa Eisele, Nick Frees, Manual Galan, Glenn Galway, Malia Grayer, Ellen Hammerschlag, Nancy Hann, Debbie Harrison, Larry Headun, Claudette Hendershot, Glory Herget, Bill Hillis, Robin Hincman, David Hirtle, Tom Holt, Stanley Jablonski, Douglas Johnson, Heather Johnson, Ashley Johnston, Rachel Kagay, Wayne Kaltwasser, Marinela Kandt, Julie Keck, Mary Krueger, Jim Lane, Denise Lines, Sean Maki, Elsie Malecki, Greg Martens, Joe Manson, Patrick McCord, Amelia McNerney and family, Pete Mogg, Linda Mohr, Mike Morrissey, Kaye Gene Mortenson, Ann Nagel, Judy Nagel, Rev. Gary Nehring, Dan Niemann, Darwin & Noreen Oliver, Charles Pentecost Jr., Ronnie Powers, Mary Raines, Delaney Saunders, Ryan Sheahan, Nancy Sly, Debbie Speer Smith, Michael Stio, Eva Tabbitas, Teresa Tormala, Samantha Jo Ann Toth, Phyllis Tucker, Helen Weishaar, Cindy Whitaker, Gordan Winkel, Reece Withers, Linda "Kirkland" Woodham.

**Military Personnel:** Daniel Anderson, Matthew Anderson, Adam Buchner, Eric Byrne, Kevin Copeman, Christopher Dutch, Michael Garza, Joshua Gooding, Roger Hammond, Christopher Hankins, Jonathan Hibbard, Jonathan Hudson, Nathan Hudson, Brian Jackson, Katherine Janssen, Keith Janssen, Josh Johnson, Joshua Jones, Jesse Krone, Michael Monson, Jesse Morse, Christian Mosser, Jeremy Schaitz, 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. Thank you.



## COFFEE HOUR

*March 4th*

*Mary Citrone*

*Ann Voelker*

*March 11th*

*March 18th*

*March 25th*

*Mary Kay Straw*

## BLOOD PRESSURE

A Health Care Advocate is an individual who is concerned about the health and well being of those in the community and church congregation. As a retired Licensed Practical Nurse for over 40 years, I have held various positions in the medical field. I have always found teaching so important because the more we know-the better choices we are able to make. I will continue to check blood pressure the last Sunday of each month. If anyone would like to volunteer and help, please call Carol Carlos (941)-255-3354 or Mary Ann Sochacki (941)-875-9557.

### M.A.R.C.H.

**M** - Move. Try to walk or do some kind of exercise daily. Adults: a minimum of 1 hour a week. Children: 1 hour a day.

**A** - Action. If you are experiencing something out of the normal (pain, shortness of breath or etc.) contact your primary physician or go to Emergency Room.

**R** - Rest. Try to get 8 hours of sleep each night.

**C** - Choices. Try to eat 5 servings of fruit and or vegetables each day.

**H** - Healthy eating habits give us a constant supply of energy. Choose foods low in sugar and high in fiber to help the body function at its best.

## CELL PHONES FOR SOLDIERS

A "Cell Phone for Soldiers" drop box is located in the narthex. Drop off your old cell phone and our troops serving overseas will receive sixty-minute calling cards good anywhere in the world. Thank you for your help.

## JUST SO YOU ALL KNOW HOW THANKFUL I AM.....

To My Dearest Congregation,

Every month as I go to put together the newsletter I think to myself how I should really add something from me to tell everyone how very thankful I am to work here and to be a part of this wonderful church.....so here it finally is.

I will have worked here three years this month. It has been more than a true blessing to know each of you over that time. You have become some of my closest friends and some of you more like family. I love to be a part of all your lives and I am constantly reminded how special it is to have so many remarkable people in my life that are such a positive influence on not only myself but also my lovely daughter.

I have learned so much about the Lutheran church, about the specifics and importance of the church year and our special holidays, not to mention I have learned so much about myself, about people and about the true beauty of friendship. My life, and my daughter's life are truly blessed to be a part of this congregation and it really is an honor to actually work here.

As always, I am here to help you in any manner that I can, but just so you are all aware, thank you for helping me in so many ways. We love you.

Jennifer Steele

Church Secretary (PROUDLY)

# Happy St. Patrick's Day

## Bible Lessons

Chapel is on Mondays  
at 3:45

3/5 Jesus Heals Ten  
Men with Leprosy

Luke 17:11-19

3/12 Jesus and the  
Little Children

Mark 10:13-16

3/19 Jesus and  
Zacchaeus

Luke 19:1-10

3/26 The Widow's Coins

Mark 12:41-44



[Jesus said,] "Let the  
little children come to  
Me."

Mark 10:14

*Submitted by Wendy Horvath*

## Birthdays

Mr. Tommy 3/7

Ms. Cherylann 3/11

Gavin E. 3/11

Khloe 3/11

Lily 3/12

Haley 3/13

Kallie 3/21

Vincent 3/31



## Congratulations on your years of service!

Ms. Katie

1 year on 3/2

Ms. Lisa

1 year on 3/9

Ms. Megan

2 years on 3/30



## What We Are Learning

3/5-3/9 Happy Birthday  
Dr. Seuss

3/12-3/16 St. Patrick's  
Day

3/19-3/23 The Pot, the  
Pan and the Wooden  
Spoon

3/26-3/30 Spring

## GOLF Scramble Fundraiser

Redeemer Lutheran  
Church and Child Care is  
sponsoring a Fundraiser  
for the Angel  
Scholarship Fund. If  
you are interested in a  
sponsorship or in  
golfing, please contact  
Ms. Lisa at 475-  
2631. The golf outing will  
be Saturday, March 31,  
2012 at 8:30 A.M.



## DANCING WITH THE STARS!



## OUTREACH

***“Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.” (Matthew 28:19-20)***

### GOD GIVES THE GROWTH

In I Corinthians 3:6, the Apostle Paul writes, *“I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth.”*

That is how it is with “evangelism.” One Christian tells someone about Jesus, others will tell more, or may even invite that person to church (i.e., “come and see.”- John 1:46 ), but the Holy Spirit is the one who gives the gift of faith and “grows” the church. We don't have to try to convince nonbelievers to believe. That's God's work. All we have to do is share what we believe with others (witnessing), invite them, and pray for them. Is that so hard? Let us pray for God's help to find the courage and the words to speak, and to give us opportunities to speak and invite.

### OUTREACH NEWS

#### 'Speed Witnessing' Workshop

The February 'Speed Witnessing' workshops were very enlightening, motivating and encouraging. I believe it was the best witness workshop that we have had at Redeemer. Pastor's presentation was so helpful to us in inspiring us to “do that which we want to do,” but so often lack courage or the right words to say. We all have this trouble—we all want to do what Jesus commanded in Matthew 28:19-20, but we are often afraid to speak or don't know what to say. Particularly in today's world, where time seems too short to talk. But we learned that opportunities abound, and Pastor gave us many conversation starters for different circumstances where time is short, e.g., in line at the grocery store, the post office, a fast food restaurant, the beach, etc. We each wrote a 4-minute version of “our story,” how we came to faith, or how God has acted powerfully in our lives. Please see Larry Jarling's story on page 5. We are now to practice our faith story, so that when the opportunity presents itself, we will be ready to share what Jesus means to us. We shared these stories with each other, and they are inspiring. I know that I came away from the training with much more “ammunition,” and more dedication to trying to talk to others and share my faith. For those of you who missed the workshop, we will be doing it again.

#### Friendship Sunday

A big thank-you to those of you who invited someone to church on February 19 for Friendship Sunday. WAY TO GO! This is sometimes an “easier” way to share our faith, and we encourage you to do it often. Remember, every Sunday is Friendship Sunday.

#### Watch Out for Visitors

Please keep an eye out for visitors on Sunday and make a point of talking to them and making them feel welcome. You can often spot them in the Narthex carrying their blue visitor bags. Or, they may be wearing one of our temporary name tags if they are a regular visitor for the season. Remember how you felt the first time you visited a new church. Was it warm and welcoming, or did no one speak to you?

#### Name Tags

Let's try to wear our name tags every Sunday. It helps visitors to remember you, and it helps all of us get to know one another better. We met a lot of new people at the New Member Dinner--let's meet some more.

*Submitted by Carol Haupt*





**CLASSIFIEDS****Beautician/Manicurist**

Debbie Balogh  
Linda Pontello

Purple Palace  
Purple Palace

941-475-0731  
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.

**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**

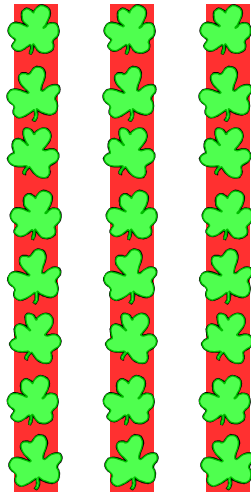
Call Rob Long! A.C.S., Inc. - Licensed General Contractor - Anything from full re models, full lanai's, window and door installation and ALL phases of construction. State certified licensed and insured. Please call for a free estimate at 941-475-5008 or 941-232-6606!

**For Sale**

"Rebounder" Trampoline with Holding Bars. \$99 or best offer...Please call Sammy Jollay at 697-5905 if interested.

**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 (352) 360-5024 or (941) 474-7755!

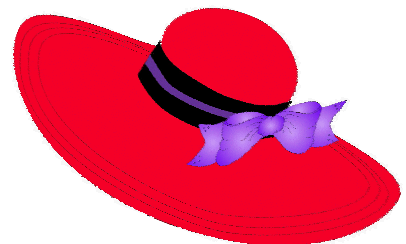
**REDEEMER RED HATS LUNCHEON**

March 27th at 12:00 NOON

Lake View Restaurant

(5605 South McCall Road, Port Charlotte, FL 33981)

*There is a sign-up sheet to the left (on the volunteer desk) in the narthex.*



REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH  
6970 Mineola Road  
Englewood, FL 34224

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



REDEEMER  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
6465 Mayport Road  
Englewood, FL 34224

REV. JAMES T. KRESS, SR.

REDEEMER REPORTER

Published monthly for members, Associate Members and Visitors of Redeemer Lutheran Church (LCMS).

WORSHIP SERVICES:

October—April: 8:00 AM & 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.*

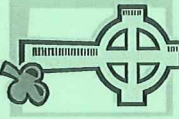

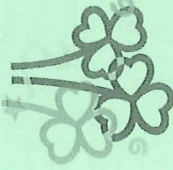
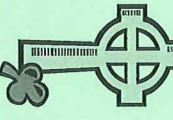
*Christ's love for us compels us to serve our neighbors as He served us.*

# REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH



## MARCH



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <b>4 The 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Lent</b> 8:00 AM Divine Service 9:15 AM Property Mgmt Mtg 9:15 AM Sunday School 9:15 AM Bible Class 10:30 AM Divine Service	 <b>5</b> 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM Stephen Ministry Training 9:00 – 11:00 AM Tap 9:00 AM Quilting Group 3:45 PM Child Care Chapel 4:00 PM Weight Watchers 6:00 PM Weight Watchers 6:00 PM School Board	 <b>6</b> 9:00 AM Hula Class 9:00 AM Sarasota Circuit Pastor's Meeting, Englewood, FL 6:00 PM Elder's Mtg 7:00 PM AA Mtg.	 <b>7</b> 9:00 – 11:00 AM Tap 10:00 AM Outreach 12:00 NOON Ladies Guild Luncheon at La Stanzas 4:30 PM Lenten Service 5:30 – 6:30 PM Lenten Dinner 6:00 PM Choir Practice 7:00 PM Lenten Service	<b>1</b> 10:00 AM Sr. Fellowship 10:00 AM Ladies Bible Class 4:00 – 5:30 PM Youth Confirmation Class 6:30 PM Stephen Ministry	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>11 The 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Lent</b> 8:00 AM Divine Service 9:15 AM Sunday School 9:15 AM Bible Class 10:30 AM Divine Service  <b>Daylight Savings Time Begins</b>	<b>12</b> 7:00 AM Men's Group 9:00 – 11:00 AM Tap 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM Stephen Ministry Training 9:00 AM Quilting Group 3:45 PM Child Care Chapel 4:00 PM Weight Watchers 6:00 PM Weight Watchers 6:00 PM Council Mtg	<b>13</b> 9:00 AM Hula Class 10:00 AM Bible Class 6:00 PM Christian Ed. 7:00 PM AA Mtg.	<b>14</b> 9:00 – 11:00 AM Tap 4:30 PM Lenten Service 5:30 – 6:30 PM Lenten Dinner 6:00 PM Choir Practice 7:00 PM Lenten Service	<b>15</b> 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM Stephen Ministry Training 10:00 AM Sr. Fellowship 10:00 AM Ladies Bible Class 6:30 PM Stephen Ministry	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> Happy St. Patrick's Day!
<b>18 The 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent w/ Stephen Minister Commissioning</b> 8:00 AM Divine Service 9:15 AM Sunday School 9:15 AM Bible Class 10:30 AM Divine Service NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	<b>19 St. Joseph, Guardian of Our Lord</b> 9:00 – 11:00 AM Tap 9:00 AM Quilting Group 4:00 PM Weight Watchers 6:00 PM Weight Watchers	<b>20</b> 9:00 AM Hula Class 9:00 AM Assimilation 10:00 AM Bible Class 7:00 PM AA Mtg. Spring Begins	<b>21</b> 9:00 – 11:00 AM Tap 4:30 PM Lenten Service 5:30 – 6:30 PM Lenten Dinner 6:00 PM Choir Practice 7:00 PM Lenten Service	<b>22</b> 10:00 AM Sr. Fellowship 10:00 AM Ladies Bible Class 4:00 – 5:30 PM Youth Confirmation Class	<b>23</b> 10:00 AM Caring Network Leaders	<b>24</b>
<b>25 The 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent w/ Dedication of Quilts, etc.</b> 8:00 AM Divine Service 9:15 AM Sunday School 9:15 AM Bible Class 10:30 AM Divine Service BLOOD PRESSURE  <i>The Annunciation of Our Lord</i>	<b>26</b> 9:00 – 11:00 AM Tap 9:00 AM Quilting Group 3:45 PM Child Care Chapel 4:00 PM Weight Watchers 6:00 PM Weight Watchers	<b>27</b> 9:00 AM Hula Class 10:00 AM Bible Class 12:00 NOON Red Hat Lunch 7:00 PM AA Mtg.	<b>28</b> 9:00 – 11:00 AM Tap 10:30 AM Human Care 4:30 PM Lenten Service 5:30 – 6:30 PM Lenten Dinner 6:00 PM Choir Practice 7:00 PM Lenten Service	<b>29</b> 10:00 AM Sr. Fellowship 10:00 AM Ladies Bible Class 4:00 – 5:30 PM Youth Confirmation Class	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>



## Wedding Anniversaries – March 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Fred & Vickie Fernald (43 Years)	2	3 Ern & Betty Maki (11 Years)
4	5	6	7 Bill & Dottie Balogh, Sr. (59 Years)	8 Rev. Warren & Peggy Thomason (57 Years)	9	10
11	12	13 Joseph & Paula Maramonte (41 Years)	14 David & Susan Jahns (59 Years)	15	16	17 Tom & Peg Leverenz (27 Years)
18	19	20 Carl & Carolyn Jordan (58 Years)	21	22 Ray & Dolores Altman (57 Years)	23	24
25	26	27	28	29 Mark & Sarah Cooper (4 Years)	30	31

## Birthdays – March 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3 Betty Maki
4 Fred Toth	5	6	7 Tom Kirkland	8 Rick Clemens	9	10 Alex Ruccatano
11 Cherylann Galway	12	13	14	15 Justin Lute	16 Stacy Bowers	17 Ervin Adair Paula Maramonte
18 Georgia Lang	19	20 Dottie LaMere Angelika Ziegler	21	22	23 Marion Buie Bob Johnson Allan Webster	24 Donna Hansen John Toth
25 Greg Demma Tom Leverenz	26	27	28 Harold Hale	29	30 Mickie Abel Dave DeBraccio	31 David Jahns