



“ISSUES CONCERNING LIFE SUPPORT”

We all know the body is a complex machine. Many organs and systems constantly work to keep it healthy and functioning. Some functions are so crucial that you can't live if they stop. When they fail, special medical procedures, commonly called life support, can keep you alive until your body is ready to take over again. But sometimes the body isn't able to resume the work. If these systems stop working for any reason, you need life support.

When most people talk about a person being on life support, they're usually talking about a ventilator, which is a machine that helps someone breathe. A ventilator (or respirator) keeps oxygen flowing throughout the body by pushing air into the lungs. It's used temporarily for conditions like pneumonia, but it may be needed longer for someone with lung failure.

When a person's heart stops, doctors will try to restart it. These life support methods include CPR, which keeps blood and oxygen flowing throughout the body, electric shocks (called defibrillation) to get the heart

beating again, and medication to help the heart work.

Less urgent forms of life support include dialysis to filter toxins from the blood, and a feeding tube or an IV to give nutrition and water.

Doctors, nurses, and other health care professionals will begin life support immediately unless:

- You decline it outright.
- You left written instructions saying you don't want it (DNR).
- Your medical power of attorney or closest family member, with the right to make decisions for you, turns it down on your behalf.

Doctors usually advise stopping life support when there is no hope left for recovery. The organs are no longer able to function on their own. Keeping the treatment going at that point may draw out the process of dying and may also be costly.

Choosing to remove life support is a difficult decision. When someone is unconscious or not of sound mind, doctors and

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Alleluia!

HE IS ALIVE!



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STEWARDSHIP

Lent is a season of repentance. Repentance is turning away from sin, while we turn toward God for the forgiveness of sins. During Lent, we hear the Word of God and consider our lives in light of it. We confess our failures, and receive absolution, that is, forgiveness, and then commit ourselves to do better.

What does God say about giving to the Church? The Bible tells us. Our giving should be first fruits giving (Genesis 4:4; Proverbs 3:9). Our giving should be regular, on the first day of week, which has the Divine Service in mind (1 Corinthians 6:1–2). Our giving should be proportional: according to our income (1 Corinthians 16:1–2), according to what we have been given (2 Corinthians 8:12; Luke 12:48), our giving should be given with a spirit of eagerness and enthusiasm (2 Corinthians 9:2), generosity and liberality (2 Corinthians 8:20), cheerfully without compulsion (2 Corinthians 9:7). Our giving should be directed to those who teach us (Galatians 6:6–7) because a laborer is worthy of his hire, and we all know the going rate of such laborers in our communities (Luke 10:7; 1 Timothy 5:18).

Now consider your own giving in light of the Bible's teaching. Are you giving of your first fruits, taking it out of your paycheck first, or does God get what's left over? Are you giving voluntarily and cheerfully? Are you giving proportionally and generously? Are you giving with eagerness and enthusiasm? Are you giving to your local congregation, sharing all good things with the one who teaches you? If your answer to any of these is "No," then repent. Turn away from your sin and toward God for forgiveness. Confess your failure. Receive absolution. And commit to do better. We know that the Spirit is willing but our flesh is weak. We believe, and we pray that God, through Word and Sacrament, would help our unbelief, our lack of trust in His ability to provide.

And this is precisely what God promises. This is what St. Paul wrote to the Church in Corinth:

““The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must give as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work. As it is written, ‘He has distributed freely, he has given to the poor; his righteousness endures forever.’ He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way for all your generosity, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God” (2 Cor 9:6–15).

St. Paul tells us that the Lord of all will both supply and increase what you need to give to the church for its work in and for the world. He tells us that this work that God is doing in us will enrich and bless us in every way and through this it will produce thanksgiving to God. Everyone benefits. We will be blessed in our giving, and it will produce thanksgiving to God in those who receive it.

Giving to the church is not a burden, just like all of God's teaching (1 John 5:2–4). They are not a burden because of He who gives it: the God who loves us and gave His only Son to die so that we may live. He loved us in that He sent His Son, born of a woman, born under the law to redeem those under the law, that we might receive adoption as sons. . . . So we are no longer slaves, but sons, and if a son, then an heir through God (Galatians 4:4–5, 7). We are heirs. We receive the full rights of sons, a status that Christ our Lord achieved for us by His death, resurrection, and ascension.

So we strive to do what He asks because we are His children. And when we don't, we repent. We confess our sins. We receive absolution. We desire to do better, praying that God would work in us both to will and to do according to His good pleasure (Philippians 2:13).

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Well it's really hard to believe how fast time passes. It seems like we were just welcoming our associate members and visitors from up north and now here we are in March and in preparation to rejoice in Easter.

As many of you probably know, we distributed ballots to vote on a few Constitution changes. I'm happy to report that we received a total of 90 ballots returned and the changes passed unanimously 90-0. I would like to thank our members, associate members and the nominating committee for stepping up to the challenge. The next "official" Constitution and By Law updates will occur in 2020....

Earlier this week I spoke to our good friend Joe Carlos. He and Carol are now in California and headed north to Alaska! They are so blessed to be able to see our great country first hand. He did mention about how much he missed all of the Redeemer friends and plans a visit back to Florida sometime in the fall or winter after getting settled down in Austin, Texas. We wish Joe and Carol God's Blessings in their travels.

Pastor Kress and the Nominating Committee will soon be looking for potential Elders. If you have an interest please contact Pastor Kress. As you know Elders play a very important role in our ministry, primarily to maintain the spiritual welfare of the Pastor and all baptized, communicant, and associate members of this Congregation. A big THANK YOU to all of our members and guests who do so much for Redeemer now, I personally do appreciate it. Please consider how you can use you time, talents and resources the Lord has blessed you with.

FELLOWSHIP HALL FLOORING PROJECT UPDATE

The Fellowship Hall Flooring Project is moving forward. We ran into a couple of new issues with existing tile and glue removal but believe now those are behind us. Jim Metzker and Terry Fountain have been working tirelessly on receiving updated proposals and attempting to schedule time that will be the least disruptive to our busy schedule for Fellowship Hall. On behalf of our Congregation I sincerely do appreciate all that they are doing to keep this project on track.

Blessings,
Stephen Wurster



SERVING THE LORD

Pastor Rev. James Kress

Seasonal Pastor

LHM Ambassador

Child Care

Director

Wendy Horvath

Office Secretary

Deb Horner

Organist

Bill Bowers

Choir Director

Collins Sita

Newsletter

Editor

Deb Horner

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Youth

James Straw

Financial

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Deb Horner

Property Mgmt.

Jim Metzger

GROUPS/GUILDS

Ladies Guild

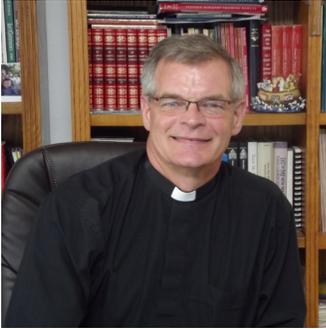
Sally Zierdt

Men's Group

Altar Guild

Coffee Hour

“Issues Concerning Life Support”



(Continued from page 1)

family members decide when life support measures should stop. It's a hard decision, especially if the sick person hasn't previously discussed his end-of-life wishes with his family. Doctors encourage family members to focus on what they think their loved one would want.

It's important to remember that it's the underlying condition, not the removal of life support that actually causes someone to die.

We, as children loved by God, all know that we are saved by His grace through faith in His Son Jesus Christ (Ephesians 2:8-9). We have the means of grace – Word and Sacrament – through which God uses to make us spiritually alive. To be sure, the means of grace are not to be considered forms of life support. They are the visible means by which we receive life, for the means of grace come from God who is the source of all life.

In Holy Baptism we are connected to Jesus who is the Resurrection and the Life (John 11:25, Romans 6:3-5). By regularly and faithfully hearing His Word and frequently receiving the Sacrament of the Altar, Jesus constantly keeps us alive in faith toward Him who is the Life of the world (John 6:51).

When a person removes himself (and his family) from the means by which he is kept alive in the true saving faith, he is in need of spiritual life support. This spiritual life support is the Christian congregation. The wandering brother or sister is in need of the spiritual life support of the congregation.

Spiritual life support comes through the means of various people: through the pastor, elders, individual members of the congregation, and even a family member. The procedures or methods that the spiritual life support people provide is given through visitation, phone calls, text messages, inbox messages on Facebook, letters or cards, and let us not forget prayers for the person who has removed himself from the means for spiritual life.

When a person removes himself from the body of Christ, that is, he is not attending worship services regularly or has not attended in a very long time, the Christian congregation usually will begin spiritual life support immediately unless, of course:

- The person declines spiritual life support.
- The person has left written instructions saying he doesn't want spiritual life support.
- The congregation doesn't recognize itself as a means of spiritual life support for the person who has removed himself from the body of Christ, the Church.

Let us keep this in mind: the underlying condition which causes us to die is sin, not the failure of a local congregation, a pastor, or a Christian family member or friend.

If you have not been attending Divine Services regularly or receiving the Lord's Supper frequently, then you need to repent and return to the Lord your God who desires your presence in His house in order to receive His gifts of life, that is, eternal life and salvation.

There may be no greater time for you to return to God's house of healing and prayer than during this season of Lent, Holy Week, and the celebration of the Resurrection of

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“Issues Concerning Life Support”

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our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. There is never, ever a bad time to return to the body of Christ. But, why wait? You know neither the day nor the hour of the Bridegroom’s return (Matthew 25:13).

And if you are regularly and faithfully attending Divine Services and frequently receiving the Lord’s Supper, but know of a person or two who haven’t been coming to church to receive these gifts of life, then perhaps you can do what is done on Facebook. If you like this article you can share it with those whom you haven’t seen in church in God-know-when.

Because God loves you, He has chosen you to be a means of spiritual life support for someone He loves.

And just when you thought you were done reading this article, one more part of the life of the Church needs to be addressed here. Our gracious Lord has blessed us not only with His gifts in Word and Sacrament along with the eternal benefits of everlasting life with Him in heaven, but He daily showers us with earthly blessings as well. Everything we have or ever will have here on earth are gifts given to us by God, no matter how large or how small. They are gifts from Him.

When Jesus was tested and questioned by the Pharisees and Herodians about whether or not it was lawful to pay taxes to Caesar or not, He responded saying, “Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s, and to God the things that are God’s” (Mark 12:13-17). All that we have in this body and life is from God.

Therefore, as blessed participating members of the life of the church here at Redeemer, we all understand that there is an earthly life of the church: the financial life of the church. The financial life of the church is the responsibility of every member and associate member of Redeemer congregation.

Unfortunately, since September of 2014 we have been on financial life support. Yes, the Lord has blessed our congregation with a few interest bearing accounts that were established and provided by faithful members of this congregation, both past and present. We have been turning to some of these accounts (with Voters’ approval), for financial life support.

This means the financial life that God has and continues to supply to you as individuals, couples, and families has not made its way in the form of a tithe through the weekly offering envelopes for the financial responsibilities for life of the church.

My friends in Christ Jesus: we can no longer remain negligent and oblivious of our financial responsibilities to the Lord’s Church. Together, and with the Lord’s help, we can begin to wean our way off the financial life support we have been relying upon and begin to financially support the life of the church on our own.

How? First pray. Pray for wisdom and guidance. He will give it. Second, recognize all the gifts God provides you each and every day. Not just the paycheck, but house and home, clothes and shoes, food and drink, luxuries and the unexpected. Then ask yourself if God deserves thanks for all that He provides you. If He does, then finally respond with your thanks to Him with your tithe in your offering envelope. As you respond in this way, it’s only because He responded first to our daily needs.

The financial life we have comes from God just as physical life on earth comes from God and just as eternal life, everlasting life comes from God through His Son Jesus Christ.

In Jesus our Life,
Pastor Kress



TRAVELS OF AQUILA AND PRISCILLA

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, we are now on the road again. GOD willing for real this time.

After leaving Austin we headed to El Paso. Aquila is pretty familiar with this area since in his former life as a sales engineer he used to spend a lot of time calling on manufacturing plants in Juarez.

Once we arrived in El Paso we decided to visit White Sands National Park. White Sands probably has the most unusual landscape that one can imagine. The surface is covered with gypsum. There are huge gypsum dunes that look like snow mounds. People use snow boards to slide down the dunes. One wonders how anything can survive, yet there are both plants and animals that have adapted to that environment. There is one rodent that has such efficient kidney's that it can go for months without drinking any water.

One of our favorite steak house's is Cattlemen's Steak House near Faben, TX, about 30 miles east of El Paso. This restaurant is in the middle of the dessert on a working ranch. This ranch is also the site for filming many motion pictures. The sunsets here are awesome due to the desert dust. The colors range from yellow's and red's to purple. By the way the steaks are pretty darn good.

Just west of El Paso, is Mesilla, NM. Mesilla is a great place to get the flavor of the southwest during the the mid to late 1800's. Mesilla, was the capital of NM and AZ. The capital building of NM and AZ is still there, however; now it's a souvenir shop. The building that housed the court in which Billy the Kid was tried and sentenced to hang and the home of Billy the kid's lawyer have new uses. One is a shop, the other a restaurant.

On our way to Silver City, NM we visited

Cochise's hideout.

This is the beautiful canyon in which Cochise held off the Calvary. It is believed that he is buried somewhere in this canyon.



Silver City, NM was our next stop. Claim to fame is that both Geronimo and Billy the Kid were born in the area and also the beginning of The Trail of the Mountain Sprints Scenic Byway. This drive takes you through the nation's largest and most remote tracts of wilderness. It passes a couple of Old West towns, winds to ancient cliff dwellings, and bypasses an immense open-pit copper mine.

The views were outstanding as we drove over the Continental Divide at 7,840 feet and through a snow covered ponderosa forest. The climb up to the Gila Cave dwellings was perhaps the most changeling we have undertaken thus far on our trek. Since for the most part it was on a primitive hiking trail, but we have to say the view from the dwellings was worth the effort.

In Tucson AZ we did the Tucson Mountains Drive and the Sky Island Scenic Byway. The Tucson Mountains Drive goes through the Sonora Desert where there are many saguaro cactus. These cactus can grow up to 60 feet tall and can hold up to 16 tons of water. In addition to the saguaro's there are many other forms of desert vegetation. It is amazing how the Indians that once lived here where able to use the various plants for food, medicine, clothing and other household needs. When you look out at the desert floor, the plants seemed to be spaced as if some one has planted them. Reason being is since the plants have to compete for

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TRAVELS OF AQUILA AND PRISCILLA

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being is since the plants have to compete for water and nutrients, some secrete, from their roots, a poison that prevents other plants to take root near them. What a GOD we have that not only cares and provides for us but even a lowly plant in the middle of a desert.

At the beginning of the ride we decided to visit Old Tucson. Old Tucson is set up like an Old Western town and has been and still is being used for filming movies, television shows, and music videos. If you have ever seen a western probably at least a portion of it was filmed there. They have a steam locomotive that has been used in over 100 films and is probably the most photographed steam train engine in the world. We had a great time seeing the various live shows and walking around the grounds. Through the end of the drive there is a hill one can climb to see a number of Hohokam culture petroglyphs. One has to wonder why one would climb

up a hill and spend numerous hours chipping on a rock with another rock to carve designs on a rock.

The Sky Island Scenic Byway takes you through 5 climate zones. You start of in a dessert environment and climb 6300 feet via 25 miles of hairpin and blind turns through a ponderosa pine forest. The road ends at the most southern snow ski resort in the Unite States. It was a beautiful and thrilling drive.

On to Phoenix where we spent a lovely evening with Aquilla's grand niece, Nicole, her husband, Gordon, and their son Gavin. Of course since we were in Phoenix we decided to drive the Apache Trail. This drive makes the Sky Island Scenic Byway seem like a cakewalk. This is a 46 mile drive; 25 miles of which is not paved. It shadows the ancient footpaths of Apache Indians. It has an abundance of switchbacks and dazzling views and plunges into sheer rock canyons. At times it narrows to just one lane, no guard rails and

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FROM THE TREASURER



January 2016:

<u>ACTUAL</u>		<u>BUDGET</u>		<u>OVER/(UNDER)</u>
INCOME:	\$12,224	INCOME:	\$13,819	(\$1,595)
EXPENSE:	\$17,792	EXPENSE:	\$19,686	(\$1,894)

TRAVELS OF AQUILA AND PRISCILLA

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drop offs up to 1500 Feet. If you enjoy a driving challenge this is a good one. Years past, they had road races on this road. But due to several fatalities they no longer allow racing. We are proud to inform you that Aquila checked his underwear that evening and it was clean.

About half way through the drive there is a town called Tortilla Flats, that used to be a stage coach stop back when and now its kind of a funky tourist trap. Tried some prickly pear ice cream. It was pretty good, kind of a strawberry flavor. About five miles past the end of the trail is Tonto National Monument. It has a lovely trail that one can walk to climb up 350 feet to see some well preserved cliff dwellings in which people lived in about the 14th century.

Our last day in Phoenix we decided that we needed to know the names of some of the plants that we have been seeing, so we went to the arboretum. Boy are we glad we did. Phoenix has a wonderful arboretum and we learned so much about the various plants and how ancient people used them. For example did you know that the dried seed pods of the mesquite tree can be ground and used as flour. It has a sweeter taste than regular flour. But if you make something out of it you better eat it pretty quick since it quickly becomes harder than a rock.

On our way to Flagstaff we made a couple of stops along the way to view some cliff dwellings called Montezuma's Castle and a sink hole called Montezuma's Well. The hole fills with about 15 million gallons of water at a rate of 1.5 million gallons per day that seeps through limestone formations as it comes down from the

mountains. The water absorbs CO2 from the limestone and also contains arsenic. The only things that live in the water is leeches and a form of algae. The leeches eat the algae and ducks eat the leeches. Yet this water when it exits the well, it travels several hundred feet through some more rock and is safe to drink.

Just a little side note. While we were traveling through a very remote area on some tribal land we noticed the LCMS logo on a sign with the name of some Indian community. Only thing we could think of was there was a missionary out there reaching to that community.

We ate lunch at "The Mile High Cafe". Yep we drove through several hairpin turns to get there but we got to have lunch at 5280 Ft. The view would have been great but it started to snow. The rest of our drive to Flagstaff reminded us of our days up North. In Flagstaff we woke up to a a winter paradise. Everything was covered with fresh snow, a beautiful sunny day, sky as blue and clear as one could wish and the air was pretty crisp. (Nice way of saying it was pretty darn cold. You know it's pretty cold when snow crunches under your feet.)

We drove down to Sedona to see the area. It is beautiful, with all different shaped rock formations. There is a lot of iron oxide in the area, so all the rock formations have a reddish hue to them. It is a great tourist town with many things to do.

On our west to Nevada we drove for about 60 miles on old US 66. It was pretty funny to see the Burma Shave signs along the way. We did not know those signs stilled existed.

We have to tell you, since I 40 has replaced US 66 there isn't much left of some of those

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TRAVELS OF AQUILA AND PRISCILLA

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towns that are along old US 66. It has been about 50 years since we had been at Hoover Dam. Now it is a huge tourist attraction, with a big visitors center, multilevel parking garage, and various hiking and viewing trails. Plus a security check in station. The dam itself is still pretty impressive.

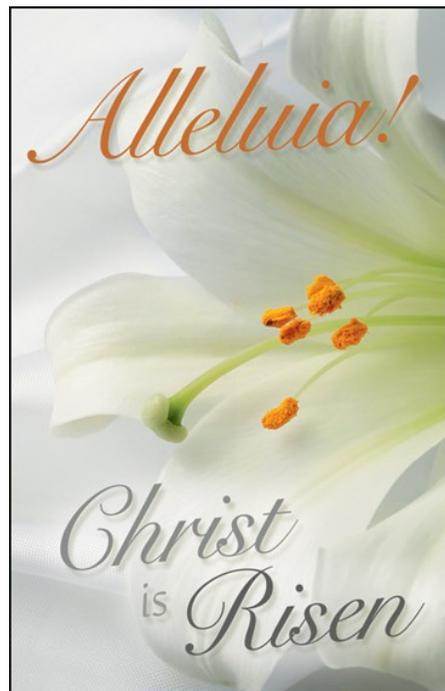
Of course, we visited Las Vegas. Since our hotel was at the end of the strip we decided to walk the whole strip. Since we are very high rollers we decided to stop at 11 casinos and risk a whole dollar in each one of these establishments. We have to say that by the end of the day we had walked 14 miles, saw a couple of free shows and had a great time and our gambling net us a profit of \$6.50. So we had a great day.

Our GPS, led us astray (at least Aquila said so. But we all know it was operator error.) So here we were, in the middle of the

dessert, no clue where. Priscilla had a problem, no problem for Aquila, cactus or a bush is the same to him. Anyway, out in the middle of no where we see some buildings. One turns out to be a brothel, the other a saloon. The saloon owner turns out to be a 70 plus lady full of life and so happy to see that we stopped by. We had a coke and chatted for about half an hour.

Death Valley National Park, was a real surprise for us. We did not expect to see such diversification both in rock formations (colors, types and shapes), animal and plant life. It certainly is a beautiful place to visit. We also, didn't expect to see so many other people there. There is so much to see and do there that we ran out of time and had to make a 70 mile round trip the following day to see what we had missed.

We wish the best for all of you and may God continue to shower all of us with his blessing.



HOLY WEEK



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

PALM SUNDAY/SUNDAY OF THE PASSION

Divine Service
with the Children's Palm Branch & Choir Processional
Sunday March 20th 9:15 AM

MONDAY IN HOLY WEEK

Divine Service
Mon. March 21st – 12:00 pm

TUESDAY IN HOLY WEEK

Divine Service
Tues. March 22nd – 12:00 pm

WEDNESDAY IN HOLY WEEK

Divine Service
Wed. March 23rd – 12:00 pm

MAUNDY THURSDAY

Divine Service
Thurs. March 24th – 4:30 & 7:00 pm
The Stripping of the Altar @ 7 pm

GOOD FRIDAY

Friday March 25th

12:00 pm (noon)
Divine Service – Tre Ore
The Last Seven Words from the Cross

4:30 & 7:00 pm
Divine Service – Tenebrae
Service of Darkness & Closing of the Book

THE VIGIL OF EASTER

Divine Service
Sat. March 26th – 8:00 pm

THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD

EASTER DAY

Divine Service
Sun. March 27th – 9:15 AM

Sunday School will host the annual Easter Egg Hunt following
Divine Service beginning at 10:30 AM
(NO Sunday School on Easter Sunday)





VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT OF THE MONTH



Everyone knows this familiar face with that kind smile!! We would like to shine the volunteer spotlight on Bill Bowers this month.

Bill does a wonderful job being our fulltime organist and Music Director. He has been playing the organ at Redeemer since 2009. He gives of his talents at wedding and funeral services. Bill is also a member of the Church Council, President of the School Board, and a member of the Board of Christian Education. And he always steps up to grill hot dogs and hamburgers for our outdoor events.

With all the time he volunteers here at the Church and School one would believe he's just occupying time in his retirement. One would be incorrect in that thinking. Bill works fulltime as an appraiser.

He and his wife, Joan have been married for 38 years. They have three adult children and six adorable grandchildren.

Bill, thank you for the many, many things you do for both the church and the Child Care. You have touched so many lives. God bless you and Joan.



PRAYERS



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

HEALING: Mickie Abel, Wilma Adair, Family and Friends of Frank Demma, Pat Finkenbine, Bernice Heppner, Mark Horvath, Dave Johnson, Rita Kaufmann, Bob Mortenson, Bob Payne, Carolyn Plesner, Tom Poyer, Joyce Redding, Don & Bonnie Roussin, Duwayne Schoeneck, Lois Skinner, Fred Toth, and Robert Vickey.

Friends & Relatives: Linny Aspery, Paul Badagliacca, Denise Bjornas Smith, Dick & Marilyn Bjornas, Bert Blackford, Grace Blum, Michelle Bernard, Bill Bowers, Jr., Dennis Burchell, Georgia Bush, Jack Carlos, Diane Carr, Debbie Carr, Esther Clapham, Bobbett Clark, Joanne Clymo, Martin Cressman, Renee Dempsey, Robert Davis, Dale DesJardins, Irene DiTommaso, James Dodge, Barb Dumeah, Bruce Everson, Donna Fancher, 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, Chris Johnson, Heather Johnson, Rachel Kagay, John Kearns, Rev. Michael Kettner, Elizabeth Lynn Klopfenstein, Stacey Lampert, Ray Likowski, Sean Maki, Joe Manson, Candace McGowan, Pete Mogg, John Montondo, Mike Morrissey, Charles Pentecost Jr., Margo Plamondon, John Purdy, Mary Raines, Family and Friends of Harold Rapp, Rev. Ronald Rock, Ashley Scudder, Nancy Sly, Peter & Linda Smith, Virginia Stanley, Charles Tolley, Samantha Jo Ann Toth, Family and Friends of Gordon Tuttle, George Vespa, Steven Walker, Christy Wallace, Helen Weishaar, and Gordan Winkel.

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 April Newsletter is March 20th
Please have all your submissions sent to redeemerfl@verizon.net OR drop it off at
the church office to Deb by the date indicated above.
Thank You!***

A Cup of Kindness for A Cup of Death

By Daniel Emery Price

Jesus said to Peter, “Put your sword into its sheath; shall I not drink the cup that the Father has given me?” –John 18:11

I have been preaching through the Gospel of John for a number of months. One thing that makes John different than the other three Gospels is the absence of the Lord’s Supper. John does set the scene for us in chapter 13 where the Upper Room event takes place, but the Supper itself is largely skipped over. We don’t have Jesus taking the bread and breaking it or taking the cup and blessing it. We simply have Judas leaving to betray Jesus and then John moves on to Jesus speaking with the disciples for four chapters. Although John skips over the Supper, he gives us beautiful, comforting words from Jesus that no one else does, and I’m grateful for those words.

Due to the four chapters in-between the Upper Room and the arrest of Jesus, it is easy for us to forget that this is the same night. Easy to forget that Jesus most certainly took a cup of wine, saying these words: “This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.” And on that same night He said to Peter, “Shall I not drink the cup that the Father has given me?”



Martin Luther referred to what happened on the cross as “the happy exchange” where Christ takes all our sin and gives us all His righteousness. He takes every shameful thought, every crooked word, and every sinful deed, and He gives us His thoughts, words, and deeds. Truly good thoughts we could never begin to think. Kind words we have never said. And perfect deeds we have never done and could never do.

This exchange is pre-figured in those two cups Jesus talks about the night He was betrayed. There is a cup of the wrath of God over sinners with all our names on it. It is a cup full to the brim with the wages of sin. Not a single drop may be spilled; all must be drunk dry. It is a cup of death. And this is the cup we deserve. The justice of God demands this cup be consumed. But the love of God is not willing to have us drink the cup that we deserve. So God does the unthinkable. He drinks it Himself. Jesus drinks it down to the dregs. Every drop is consumed on His cross. Jesus dies drinking the wages of our sin.

Unfortunately, many people will tell you there is still something left in that cup for you drink. When you sin they may try and place that cup up to your lips. But there is nothing there for you to drink. That cup is bone dry. Instead we have been given another cup to drink. A cup of kindness and forgiveness. A cup of the blood of the One who drank that other cup in our place. A cup that God Himself says is “FOR YOU.” There is no wrath or death in that cup, there is only life and salvation. This cup is pure grace and gift.

So in the midst of a life that is short but hard and full of failure, know that the cups have been reversed. The same night Jesus instituted the Lord’s Supper speaking of forgiveness and life, He also spoke of the cup filled with the wages of all our sin that He himself would drink. And while hanging on a filthy cross for the sins of the world, He did just that.

Peter tried to stand between Jesus and that cup with a drawn sword, but Jesus wouldn’t allow it. He won’t allow us to either. Nor will He allow you to taste one sip of that cup of wrath and death. Instead He stands between all of us and that cup of judgment. He says “I will drink this one. I’ve given you another.”



MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICE SCHEDULE

March 2nd – Midweek Service

Lenten Service at 4:30 PM
Lenten Dinner at 5:30 PM

March 9th – Midweek Service

Lenten Service at 4:30 PM
Lenten Dinner at 5:30 PM

March 16th – Midweek Service

Lenten Service at 4:30 PM
Lenten Dinner at 5:30 PM



Date	Set-up	Take-down
Sunday, March 6th	Dottie LaMere Carolyn Francis	Lisa Kress
Sunday, March 13th	Bob Varone Vicki Fernald	Deb Horner Gretchen Armstrong
Sunday, March 20th	Lisa Kress	Gretchen Armstrong Carolyn Francis
Thursday, March 24th	Stripping of the Altar at 7:00 PM service	<i>All Available-please plan to be there to help!!</i>
Sunday, March 27th	Gretchen Armstrong Gale Bakalik	Lisa Kress Sally Zierdt

LIFE LINE SCREENING

Redeemer Lutheran Church is pleased to offer a preventive health event. Life Line Screening, a leading provider of community-based preventive health screenings, will host their affordable, non-invasive and painless health screenings on 4/1/2016. Five screenings will be offered that scan for potential health problems related to: blocked arteries which is a leading cause of stroke; abdominal aortic aneurysms which can lead to a ruptured aorta; hardening of the arteries in the legs which is a strong predictor of heart disease; atrial fibrillation or irregular heart beat which is closely tied to stroke risk; and a bone density screening, for men and women, used to assess the risk of osteoporosis. Register for a Wellness Package which includes 4 vascular tests and osteoporosis screening from \$149 (\$139 with our member discount). All five screenings take 60-90 minutes to complete. **In order to register for this event and to receive a \$10 discount off any package priced above \$129, please call 1-888-653-6441 or visit www.lifelinescreening.com/community-partners.**



LWML—SPRING RALLY INFORMATION

The ladies of Faith Parrish, Florida, cordially invite you to the **Spring Rally** on Saturday, April 16, 2016.

9:00 AM Registration and Refreshments
9:30 AM Program of Service and Communion

Registration is \$7.00 per person; Pastors and LWML District President may attend at no cost. All forms and money need to be returned no later than March 31, 2016. Please make checks payable to "Faith Lutheran Church". There is a sign up sheet in the Narthex on the Visitors Desk.



The **1st donation** will help defray expense for District Delegates. Cash or checks payable to "Faith Lutheran Church".

The **2nd donation** is a Love Offering for Hope Seeds, Inc. Cash or checks payable to "Hope Seeds, Inc."

Guest Speaker: Bethany Matzke, Hope Seeds, Inc. Her parents and the founders Mike and Jean Mueller encouraged her to join the family team to help spread the word of Plant A Seed! Feed A Soul!

Second Guest Speak: Peggy Kirnan, Solve Maternity Homes. Donations of baby items will be collected.

EASTER BRUNCH

The Ladies Guild/LWML Easter Brunch will be held after service on Easter Sunday. We are looking for help. If anyone would like to serve or bring a dish, please check the sign-up sheet on the visitor's table in the Narthex. Our goal is to provide a delicious, beautiful display of treats for all our members and visitors to enjoy. Your help is appreciated.

LENTEN DINNERS

The Season of Lent brings midweek Divine Service with our Lenten Dinners served at 5:30 PM. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex. Please indicate the number of people that will be attending and the type of dessert (pot dish) you will be bringing. If you would like to help, please contact the church office. **We are still in need of someone to prepare the meal for March 16th. If you would like to share your cooking talents with us by preparing a Lenten Dinner, please contact the church office or Pastor.**



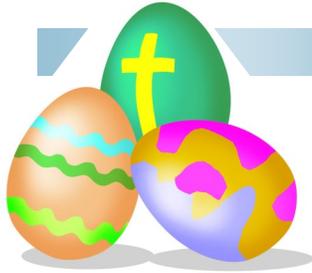
POSITION DESCRIPTIONS

Below are just a few of the positions which are vacant at this time. Please read the descriptions and prayerfully consider stepping up to fill one of these positions. Without the many wonderful and faithful volunteers, we would not be able to fully minister to our congregation and the community.

SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT: The primary duties would be to coordinate the schedules for Sunday School teachers, prepare the materials & make sure they are available, review attendance and work with parents to encourage attendance and see if rides are needed (not to necessarily provide the rides, but to contact somebody who could); work with Pam Replinger to address any concerns of Sunday School teachers, and assist in Rally Day and Vacation Bible School as able.

BOARD OF HUMAN CARE: The Chair of this very critical board works closely with the Pastor to insure proper care to individual members and families of the congregation. The Board of Human Care is expansive as it gives attention to emotional, physical, psychological, and spiritual maladies of God's people. With the help of the Pastor, the Chair trains members of the Board of Human Care to make hospital visits as well as visits to the shut-in and the infirm. The Chair oversees a prayer-chain with members who are not connected to the internet to receive E-prayers. The Chair also assigns a Coordinator to other programs of mercy within the congregation, i.e. Monthly Blood Pressure, Disaster Preparedness, Stephen Ministries, Caring Network, Cards of Comfort, and Christian Support Groups. The Board of Human Care may also participate in community events, i.e. Blood Drives and Relay For Life. The Chair of this board is also required to attend the monthly Church Council Meeting (2nd Monday at 7 PM), and prepare a brief report of the board's work to the Council and to the Voters' Assembly each quarter.

BOARD OF ASSIMILATION: The Chair of this important board works with the Pastor and the Chairs of other boards and committees to integrate new members into the life of the congregation. The Chair monitors the guidelines for proper use of the visitor's desk in the narthex. The Chair delegates the following responsibilities to the members of the Board of Assimilation: Supply greeters for Sunday Church services; Provide 'visitor bags' for first time visitors to Redeemer before Sunday services; Provide New Member Packets for all incoming new members; Take pictures of all new members; Place pictures in New Member Showcase (located in the narthex); and Provide the Newsletter Editor with pictures of all new members. The Chair of this board is also required to attend the monthly Church Council Meeting (2nd Monday at 7 PM), and prepare a brief report of the board's work to the Council and to the Voters' Assembly each quarter.



Redeemer Child Care



March 2016 Bible Lessons

Chapel is on Mondays at
3:45

2/29 God's People Praise Him

Matthew 21:1-11

3/7 God's People Honor Jesus

Matthew 26:6-13

3/14 Jesus Saves Us from Sin

Matthew 27:27-56

3/21 & 3/28 Jesus Gives Us New Life

Matthew 28:1-10



Dear Jesus, I am so glad You are alive. Help me tell others this good news. Amen.

Submitted by Wendy Horvath

Birthdays

3/2 Dr. Seuss' Birthday



Allison J 3/9

Khloe 3/11

Natalie 3/19

Jameson 3/23

Jonathan D. 3/28

Ms. Vicky 3/18

Ms. Emily 3/23



Ice Cream Social

April 10, 2016

from 2 to 4

Come and join us for ice cream and fellowship



What We Are Learning

2/29 Jesus Rides into Jerusalem

3/7 A Woman Anoints Jesus' Head and Feet

3/14 The Crucifixion

3/21 & 3/28 Easter Morning

Congratulations to Lindsay Mosser & Nick Campbell on the birth of their daughter Madalen Rita 2/16/2016



Special Days in March

3/13 Daylight Savings Time Begins

3/17 St. Patrick's Day

3/20 First Day of Spring

3/25 CLOSED

3/27 Easter Sunday



Choir



Voices Needed

Choir meets each Wednesday at 6:00 PM. Choir is preparing for a new season of performances and is inviting you to join them. If you love to sing, prayerfully consider responding to their invitation and join the choir. There is always room for more angelic voices or voices that love to sing praises to God! Rehearsals are every Wednesday in the Choir Room located behind the altar. If you are interested in becoming a member of the choir and have questions, please contact Collins Sita for more information.



CLASSIFIEDS

Lawn Care

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

Cleaning Services

CK-Clean LLC—Residential cleaning service—Kristine Bowers
Baltimore (941) 681-6514

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

<i>March 6</i>	<i>TBA</i>
<i>March 13</i>	<i>Sally Zierdt</i>
<i>March 20</i>	<i>TBA</i>
<i>March 27</i>	<i>TBA</i>

*Submitted by
Assimilation*



COFFEE HOUR

<i>March 6</i>	<i>Paulette Sita</i>
<i>March 13</i>	<i>Pauline Vickey Sue Poyer</i>
<i>March 20</i>	<i>Ann Varone</i>
<i>March 27</i>	<i>— Everyone—<u>EASTER BRUNCH</u></i>

*Submitted by Brd. of
Community &
Parish Fellowship*



PUZZLE PAGE

Across

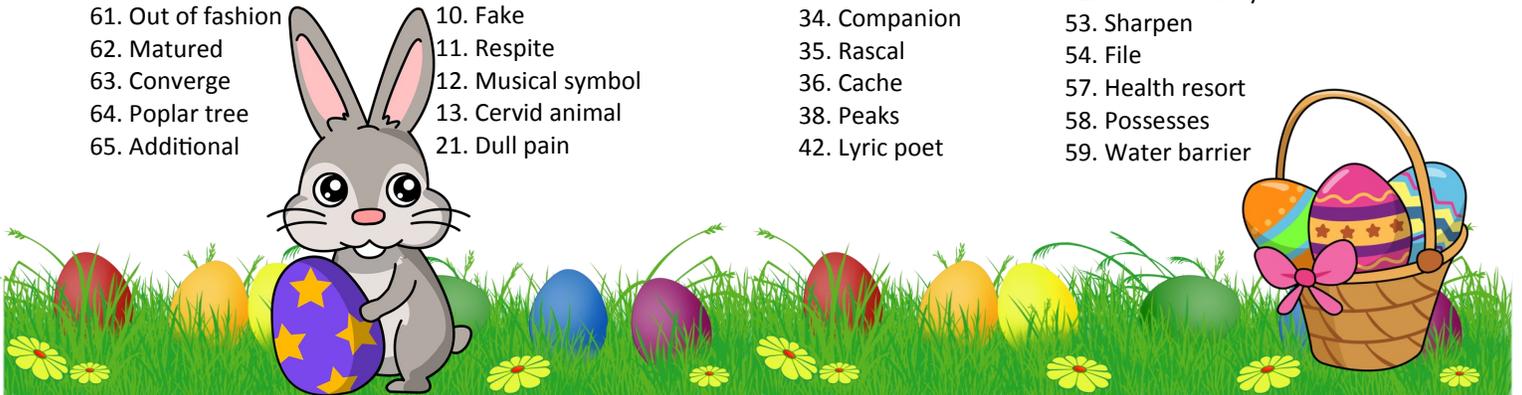
- 1. Geological formation
- 5. Long-tailed parrot
- 10. Ring
- 14. Singing voice
- 15. Religious meal
- 16. Woodwind instrument
- 17. Stupefy
- 18. Heavy pin
- 19. Entrance
- 20. Decimal base
- 21. Fit and healthy
- 22. Located outside
- 23. Newspaper piece
- 25. Cover with liquid
- 27. Female person
- 28. Period of time
- 29. Encountered
- 32. No longer new
- 35. Disastrous defeat
- 36. Perceive sound
- 37. Water pipe
- 38. One of the senses
- 39. One time only
- 40. Remove from a position of office
- 41. Fiend
- 42. Cleanse
- 43. Argument in favor
- 44. Musical work
- 45. Armed conflict
- 46. Jinx
- 48. Jury decision
- 52. Gleam
- 54. Peruse
- 55. Spoil
- 56. Bread
- 57. Marine carnivore
- 59. Information
- 60. Not in favor
- 61. Out of fashion
- 62. Matured
- 63. Converge
- 64. Poplar tree
- 65. Additional

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14					15						16			
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52	53							54					55	
56						57	58					59		
60						61						62		
63						64						65		

Down

- 1. You need dough to make it
- 2. Change
- 3. Unusual or dangerous feat
- 4. Male offspring
- 5. Hard rock
- 6. Nimble
- 7. Grotto
- 8. Simian
- 9. Moisture
- 10. Fake
- 11. Respite
- 12. Musical symbol
- 13. Cervid animal
- 21. Dull pain
- 22. Belonging to us
- 24. Small island
- 25. Tennis term
- 26. Expletive
- 28. Belonging to you
- 30. Apiece
- 31. Woody plant
- 32. Retail outlet
- 33. Journey
- 34. Companion
- 35. Rascal
- 36. Cache
- 38. Peaks
- 42. Lyric poet
- 44. Metal-bearing mineral
- 45. Undermine
- 47. Unsound
- 48. Rhyme
- 49. Adult insect after metamorphosis
- 50. Provide a service
- 51. Commercial exchange
- 52. Close violently
- 53. Sharpen
- 54. File
- 57. Health resort
- 58. Possesses
- 59. Water barrier

Solution on Page 15



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

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March
2016



REDEEMER LUTHERAN
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6465 Mayport Street
Englewood, FL 34224

REV. JAMES T. KRESS, SR.

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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

The Redeemer Lutheran Church & Child Care Family are called into the service of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ by His command (Matthew 28:18-20) to:

- Disciple all nations, that is, all people;
- Baptize in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit;
- Proclaim the Gospel and teach His Word in its truth and purity.