



APRIL 2024



Jesus is Alive and He Empowers and Encourages

Jesus spends a total of 40 day on this earth after He conquered death by rising from the dead. We don't have a complete description of all that happened during those 40 days. But we do know this:

After His resurrection Jesus met with the disciples in the upper room to calm their fears and to reassure them that the lies the Jewish leaders were spreading were not true.

I have always wondered what was going on in Thomas' life that would cause him to not be with the disciples that first time. I wonder what was said to convince him to be present the second time?

We also know Jesus appeared to the two disciples traveling to Emmaus from Jerusalem. Luke in his Gospel said they were talking along the way about everything that had recently happened. We know one was name Cleopas. I wonder what was his background? I wonder how and why he became a disciple? As one reads this recollection there seems to be a sense of doubt regarding what has been reported to them regarding the reason for the empty tomb.

And then we know that Jesus met the disciples later in Galilee as he asked them to do. (Mark 16:7 which John records in John 21 as being fulfilled.) John 21 also recounts the now famous restoration of Peter.

What has always been a question for me is where and when does Paul's account of one of Jesus' post resurrection appearances (1 Corinthians 15:6) take place?

An orderly timeline is challenging at best. But is the understanding of the timeline important? Or is it the ministry that Jesus conducts each time He is with His followers – whether the group is large or small?

Let us remember what is important. The ministry Jesus conducts each and every time in these post resurrection appearances is what is of importance. The ministry of forgiveness, restoration, and empowerment for what lies ahead in the future.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Craig Mathews

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Blessings



I knelt to pray when day was done
And prayed, "O Lord, bless everyone,
Lift from each saddened heart the pain
And let the sick be well again."

And then I woke another day
And carelessly went on my way,
The whole day long I did not try
To wipe a tear from any eye.

I did not try to share the load
Of any brother on the road.
I did not even go to see
The sick man just next door to me.

Yet once again when day was done
I prayed, "O Lord, bless everyone."
But as I prayed, into my ear
there came a voice that whispered clear,

"Pause now, my son, before you pray.
Whom have you tried to bless today?
God's sweetest blessing always go
by hands that serve him here below."

And then I hid my face and cried,
"Forgive me, God, I have not tried,
But let me live another day
and I will live the way I pray"

--Author Unknown

Whose Is It Anyway?

If you have every bought or sold a house, you are acquainted with the concept of a “title search.” Before you can sell your house, and before anyone else will feel comfortable putting down the money to buy it, you have to prove that you really own it. So a title company looks through the public records to ensure that you bought it from the person who really owned it, who bought it from the person who really owned it before that, all the way back to the earliest records of your state, including when your state was only a territory or colony of England.

Peak into a preschool classroom during playtime and you’ll see a simplified version of this. A child starts playing with a ball, but another child says, “That’s mine: I had it first.”

You can’t understand the Seventh Commandment without understanding this concept of ownership or title. As the Small Catechism puts it:

You shall not steal. What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not take our neighbor’s money or possessions, or get them in any dishonest way, but help him to improve and protect his possessions and income.

Your neighbor’s possessions are *his*: you don’t have a right to take them. And likewise, your possessions are yours. Ownership and property rights are foundational to any functioning society.

But there is something deeper to know about ownership, and that is the question of who has the title and ownership *to you*? Paul says, “Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price” (1 Cor. 6:19–20).

If you yourself are owned by God, then of course everything that you own, you really only possess by God’s leave: all of it, at bottom, belongs to Him since *you* belong to Him. For you were bought with the blood of Christ.

This notion is the foundation of all Christian stewardship. It all belongs to God. It should all be used for things that bring honor to His name, blessings to our neighbors and the extension of His kingdom.

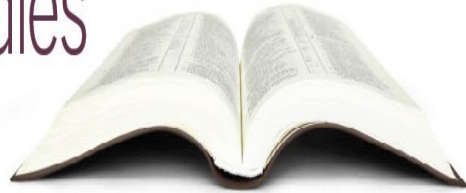
— LCMS Stewardship Ministry

The graphic features a light blue background with a faint image of a pen, a calendar, and a \$50 bill. The text "Treasurer's Report" is centered, with "Treasurer's" in a green, sans-serif font and "Report" in a red, cursive font. Below the title, the text "Financial information is available to all members upon request." is written in a black, sans-serif font.

**Treasurer's
Report**

Financial information is available to all members upon request.

Bible Studies



Sunday Morning Bible Study: Please join us after the morning service (and after a cup of coffee – approximately 10:30 a.m.). We will be using a study called “The Unlocked Door:”.

Table Talk: Table talk is a very informal Bible study now held on Thursday mornings at 9:30 AM, immediately after the 8:45 school chapel service. Participants come with any sort of question. We work to answer those questions from God’s Word and from our Lutheran Confessions. In doing that we all learn more about God’s Word and its application in our lives. We are currently focusing on the book of Acts. One way or another there is always friendly and interesting discussion.

All are welcome and encouraged to come early to attend the chapel service. Who can’t be cheered by the sound of the children’s voices? There is always coffee and usually doughnuts. Please consider joining us! **Pastor Mathews** is leading the discussion; come and meet him.

SERVING THE LORD

Interim Pastor Rev. Craig Mathews

Office Admin Asst Caitlin Tilton

Organist

Choir Director

Newsletter Pat Finkenbine

School Admin Wendy Horvath

Child Care Director Debby Buel

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Secretary Sherrie Keesee

Property Mgmt. Steven Horvath

GROUPS/GUILDS

Altar Guild Catalina Bakas

Coffee Hour Joyce Schneider

***The deadline for the May 2024 Newsletter is April 18th.
PLEASE have all your submissions sent to patchas123@gmail.com
OR drop them off at the church office by the date indicated above. Thank You!***

DAY SCHOOL

I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. John 15:5

5th-7th The 3rd quarter is coming to a close already. Coach Don's class has been busy this past month catching up on all class work and getting ready for the 4th quarter. In Science the class has started working on any famous scientist throughout time. They are learning and studying what their achievements were, and how they have helped shape our world today. In History we are going through our collective heritages and tracing back our family lines. In Math the class has been plugging away at Area, Perimeter, Pre-Algebra. They have been challenged with higher grade work instead of their regular Math. In Language the class has put some amazing stories together about themselves and if they could have lunch with Jesus what would they talk about. They have been working extremely hard at their studies and are having fun. It's been a blessing to see 13 different students come together as one class. God Bless — *Coach Don*

3rd & 4th We have been advancing rapidly in Arithmetic. The third graders are working on measurement equations, division, and adding and subtracting with money. The fourth graders have been learning the Metric System and double-digit division along with rounding three-digit numbers. In Language the third graders are learning to use helping verbs and marking sentences for diagramming. Fourth graders are learning to author stories using pronouns and narrative writing. In Spelling the class is practicing for our Annual Redeemer School Spelling Bee on April 23 at 10am. I hope you can come to watch us try out our new school competition. In Science the class has been studying animals with their classifications and habitats. They have been making models of their habitats for the classroom. In History we are reading the Constitution of the United States as well as learning about the people who helped write it. *Ms. Fran*

K-2 celebrated Dr. Seuss's Birthday. The children each chose one of his books to write a book report on and then presented their book dressed as a character. They also made the Cat in the Hat in art and had a Dr. Seuss themed field day! The children just finished up their health book this past quarter and have learned how God wants us to live and treat others. It has been a fun semester letting the children discuss manners, safety, and healthy habits. — *Ms. Pam and Ms. Emily*

Upcoming events:

April 1 No School Easter Monday

April 2 Bring your books to school in anything but a backpack! Celebrating April Fool's Day!

April 9 PTL Taco Dinner and Children's Awards 5:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall

April 23 at 10:00 AM Spelling Bee 3-7 Grade with lunch afterwards



Church: www.redeemerfl.com
Child Care: www.redeemerfl-cc.com
School: www.redeemerfl-school.com



Redeemer Lutheran Church of Englewood
Redeemer Lutheran Child Care
Redeemer Lutheran School



Letters of the month: W U

Number of the month: 10

Shape of the month: Rhombus

Color of the month: Purple

Bible Lesson: God cares for the
Birds and Flowers

This month we are learning about Blooming every where

What we are learning in VPK-A and VPK-B is studying - Reduce, Reuse and Re-cycle. Letters B, F and E.

April 15 – field trip to Iguana land

Prayer Requests

Shut-ins: Rita Kaufman and Dorothy Sinowetski.

Healing for members: Ed & Jan DeTrow, Don Garay, Rylie Giroux, Judy Guastella, Jane Harty, Steven Horvath, Nancy Kozak, Kitty Hill, Jerry Lindberg, Chuck & Elaine Mal-ecki, Lillian Miles, Colette Nagel, Tom & Sue Poyer, Jim & Bonnie Schluentz, Joyce Schneider, Caitlin Tilton, Bob Varone, and Pauline Vickey.

Friends and relatives: Barbara George, Mikayla Hacksunda, Daniel & Michelle Kalstrup, Dave McMullan, Esther Murphy, family and friends of Rob Powers, Becky Rurade, Laurie Steinke, and Wava Zeitlow.





Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever. Psalm 23:6

**REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH,
SCHOOL & CHILD CARE**

6970 Mineola Rd.
Englewood, FL 34224

ADDRESS SERVICE
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REDEEMER REPORTER

Published monthly for members, associate members and visitors of Redeemer Lutheran Church. Redeemer is a member congregation of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod. (LCMS).

WORSHIP SERVICES:

Divine Service: 9:15 am

Bible Study: 10:30 am



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

- ◆ *Disciple all nations, that is, all people;*
- ◆ *Baptize in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit;*
- ◆ *Proclaim the Gospel and teach His Word in its truth and purity; and*
- ◆ *Never be ashamed of the Gospel—it is the power of God unto salvation (Romans 1:16)*