



August 2017



“RENEWED, RESTORED, REPAIRED, AND REPLACED?”

This Newsletter Article was delayed a few days because of some recent and important activity by the leadership of Redeemer Lutheran Church. I pray that in your reading of this entire article you will come to a full understanding of what the will of God just might be for our church and what may be required of you in the coming weeks.

It brings us great comfort, confidence, and joy, doesn't it, that when we attend Divine Service each Sunday our loving Lord and Savior renews us, restores us, repairs us, and replaces us? What!? I know, some of this may sound a bit unusual, but allow me to explain from God's powerful Word.

By the Power of God's Word, We Are Renewed

During the Offertory we sing, "Create in me a pure heart, O God, and *renew* a steadfast spirit within me" (Psalm 51:10). This is our response to the hearing and preaching of the Word of God. Furthermore, the Apostle Paul explains, "We do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being *renewed* day by day" (2 Corinthians 4:16). The new person – our inner self – who will live forever in the presence of God, is being renewed day by day as a result of God's powerful Word and Sacraments. The means of grace

give us strength for each day of our lives, prompting us to live in daily repentance. You are renewed in Christ Jesus.

By the Power of God's Word, We Are Restored

And we continue to sing in the Offertory, "*Restore* to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me." (Psalm 51:12). By His gracious favor our Lord restores us to the salvation He won by His life, suffering, death, and resurrection. Because of your sins you forfeit what He gives, but by the grace of God, that is, out of great love for you, He restores. By grace you are restored. By grace you are forgiven. Your penitent prayer to the God of all grace is answered. Furthermore, Peter gives us additional confidence when he writes, "After you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to His eternal glory in Christ, will Himself *restore*, confirm, strengthen, and establish you" (1 Peter 5:10). God promises to care for all our needs, especially in the midst of difficult times. You are restored in Christ Jesus.

By the Power of God's Word, We Are Repaired.

Speaking through the Prophet Isaiah, the Lord says, "By His wounds we are *healed*" (Isaiah 53:5). To heal something is to repair that which is broken, such as, a relationship, a physical,

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emotional, or spiritual ailment. The wound we are healed by God is sin – sin we ourselves committed or sins committed against us. In the wounds of Jesus, we are healed, repaired. It's not like a band aid covering a wound unable to heal it. Rather it is a wound healed, closed and sealed from pain. At the very worst it leaves a scar – a reminder of the wound, but it is healed. Relief from pain, suffering, guilt, and shame is given. Peter reiterates this when he is inspired by the Holy Spirit to write, "He Himself bore our sins' in His

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body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; ‘by His wounds you have been healed’” (1 Peter 2:24). Jesus revealed His wounds to His disciples following His resurrection giving the assurance that He is the Christ, the Son of the Living God who has paid the price for all sin; who took into Himself your sin, your suffering; your pain; your guilt and shame. Jesus rose victoriously over all things – sin, death, and Satan. You are repaired in Christ Jesus.

By the Power of God’s Word, We Are Replaced

This sounds really weird, but it’s true. Because of our sin, we deserve to die, “the wages of sin is death” (Romans 6:23a). Yet, because of God’s love for all mankind He sent His only-begotten Son to pay God’s demand for sin. You see, we deserve to be on the cross of death and die for our own sin – original and actual – but Jesus took us down from the cross and placed Himself on it, thus dying the death we deserve and yet in His death He paid the price for all sin with His precious and innocent blood. In other words, Jesus *replaced* us on the cross with Himself. And that’s not all! In His replacing us from the cross He took that which was not His – our sin – and placed it upon Himself. And then He gave us that which is not ours but His – His righteousness – and placed it upon us, “For our sake He made Him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God” (2 Corinthians 5:21). You see, the second part of Romans 6:23 says, “The free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.” You are replaced – from eternal death to eternal life – in Christ Jesus.

Now please read these powerful Words of God He has for you: “But now thus says the Lord, He who created you, O Jacob, He who formed you, O Israel: ‘Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are Mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the Lord

your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. ... Because you are precious in My eyes, and honored, and I love you, ... Fear not, for I am with you” (Isaiah 43:1-5a).

Can you now see with the help of God’s powerful Word how He in Christ Jesus renews you, restores you, repairs you, and replaces you? Friends, this is present tense language. His presence, love, and grace are ongoing in and throughout your life. It is never-ending. From the baptismal font to the grave, God takes care of you. Again, He loves you.

The Body of Christ Needs Some Attention

So, just as your body – the temple of the Holy Spirit – is renewed, restored, repaired, and replaced by the power of God’s Word, so also by the power of God’s Word, He calls you to renew, restore, repair, and replace the body of Christ, the Church, the temple where you worship God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit and also receive His immeasurable gifts. More broadly He says to you and me and all believers, “Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms.” (1 Peter 4:10).

The key word for us to pay attention from above is *steward*. We are called to be God’s managers and custodians of all the things He gives us. Not only are we to be stewards of our personal possessions, but more importantly of the things that belong to the Church, the body of Christ. After all, all that we have and ever will receive comes from Him, “Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father” (James 1:17a).

We all know that just as the home we live in needs renewing, restoring, repairing, and sometimes even replacing, so does the house of God need this attention too.

What the Redeemer Church Has Been Busy Doing

For many months, perhaps years even, the Church Council has been discussing in great detail the needs of our buildings, in particular the Church (God’s house), Fellowship Hall (the

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Education Building), and the Child Care Center (Redeemer’s largest mission). More recently the Church Council has been forced to view the particular needs of the Church and Fellowship Hall. I use the word ‘force’ because of the aging roofs, air conditioning units, carpet, etc.

Since 2015, we have been doing some noticeable repairs and replacement with monies raised through fundraisers and from some investments accounts, including the interest income we are free to use from our Endowment Fund. We have repaired the carpet, put up gutters on both the Church and Fellowship Hall, installed new flooring in both the Child Care Center and Fellowship Hall, cleaned the steeple, painted both the outside of the Church and Fellowship Hall, cut many overgrown trees, and repaired the Mayport St. lighted sign, just to name a few projects. We have been working very hard, to be sure. Unfortunately, the time has come to repair and replace some of the larger and more costly items.

Redeemer Leadership Activity

At our July Voters’ Meeting last month (July 16th), Jim Metzker, Church Properties Chair (who has been in the construction industry for nearly 30 years; possesses a Bachelor’s Degree in Construction Management; is a State Licensed General Contractor; holds a State of Florida Roofer’s License; and a State of Wisconsin Journeyman Plumber’s License), presented the voters with a list of items that are in need of our attention. Most of the items are ‘big ticket’ items and the others, although smaller in dollar repair, are items that are best accomplished when the ‘big ticket’ items are being done.

Following his presentation, Mr. Metzker made a plea to the Voters’ Assembly asking for permission from the Assembly to approach the Endowment Committee and request a principal distribution from the Endowment Fund. Immediately a motion was made, followed by a second and then some clear, solid, healthy discussion. When the motion was called, the Voters’ responded with a resounding “YES.” Permission granted.

Enid Muhme, Endowment Committee Chair, who was also present and participated in the discussion at the Voters’ Meeting, notified the Members of the Endowment Committee calling for a meeting on Thursday, July 28th. The Endowment Committee met to review, discuss, and respond to the request of the Church Council to consider a principal distribution from the Endowment Fund of up to \$300,000. With careful examination of the request and the governing articles of the Endowment Fund, the Committee unanimously approved the principal distribution in the amount of \$300,000. The Chair then returned the Committee’s approval back to the Church Council.

Bill Bowers, Congregation Vice-President (acting in the absence of President Stephen Wurster), called a special Church Council Meeting on Sunday, July 30th to discuss and wisely determine the next set of actions of the Council. Because of the urgent need to begin repair or replacement of some of the items on Mr. Metzker’s list, the Council decided not to wait until our next regular Voters’ Meeting in October, but rather call a Special Voters’ Meeting on Sunday, August 20th following Divine Service for the purpose of approving a principal distribution from the Endowment Fund in the amount of \$300,000. Upon a careful review of the By-Laws of the Church Constitution, it was established that this motion is an exceptional case and would require 50% of the total voting membership to comprise a quorum and would also require a two-thirds vote to approve such motion.

A Call to All Voting Members

It is rare that Special Voters’ Meetings are called. However, when they are called it is because the circumstances are of the utmost importance. In most cases, Special Voters’ Meetings are called for the election of a Pastor. This is the process, established hundreds of years ago, to call a Pastor to shepherd the flock of Christ Jesus, the local congregation. God works

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through the congregation to send His chosen servant to the calling parish. The Voters’ Assembly – Regular or Special – are always important. The Voters’ Assembly, under the Lordship of Christ Jesus, has the supreme power in the external and internal administration of spiritual and material affairs.

If you are a Voting Member of Redeemer Lutheran Church, I call you to fulfill your responsibilities. And whatever the outcome of the Special Meeting on Sunday, August 20th (what we will do or will not do), let us all trust it is the will of God and not the will of man. Let us trust in God, embrace and accept the outcome, and move forward together as a unified body of Christ – renewed, restored, repaired, and replaced in Christ Jesus.

Personally, I believe this meeting can mark a positive turning point for Redeemer’s future, not only for the Church, but also for the Day School and Child Care Early Learning Center. I believe the Voters actions can set us free to carry out Christ’s mission for His Church – making disciples – and there’s no better place to do that mission than right here in the Englewood, Rotonda West, Placida, Port Charlotte, Venice, and North Port communities, the community where God has called us to live as His Redeemed people. He says of you, “You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for His own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy” (1 Peter 2:9-10).

A Call to All Members of Redeemer

If you recall, I opened this Newsletter Article stating that “It brings us great comfort, confidence, and joy, when we attend Divine Service each Sunday our loving Lord and Savior renews us, restores us, repairs us, and replaces us.” I proceeded to explain all that I meant in that statement. However, did you catch my

subliminal use of the phrase “When we attend Divine Service each Sunday?”

You see, God does not promise to restore, renew, repair, or replace us when we are apart from Him – the place where He promises to be and to shower us with His gifts: His holy sanctuary. As a member of Redeemer Lutheran Church you have a responsibility to 1) attend Divine Services diligently and to partake of the Lord’s Supper frequently; 2) to share faithfully in time, talent and treasure, according to the ability God has given, toward the edification, that is, the building up of the Body of Christ in the congregation and throughout the world; and 3) provide for the Christian education of any children under their parental care through the various agencies of Christian education provided by the congregation, such as, Sunday School, VBS, and Divine Service.

In the weekly bulletin, the attendance and offerings are reported along with our weekly budget need. Every week we fall far short of meeting those financial needs. How can we change that? What can we do? All would change if every member of Redeemer Lutheran Church were to remain faithful to their Lord Jesus Christ and His Church.

There is no one among us who can keep all of God’s commands perfectly. However, the Word of God does exhort us to remain faithful to Him with steadfast purpose (Acts 11:23). Take courage my beloved, “The saying is trustworthy, for: If we have died with Him, we will also live with Him; if we endure, we will also reign with Him; if we deny Him, He also will deny us; if we are faithless, He remains faithful—for He cannot deny Himself” (2 Timothy 2:11-13). I look forward to seeing you all in Divine Service as well as at the Special Voters’ Meeting on Sunday, August 20th.

Renewed, Restored, and Repaired in Christ,
Pastor Jim Kress

IMPORTANT NOTICES

SPECIAL VOTERS' MEETING SUNDAY, AUGUST 20th

The Church Council has called for a Special Voters' Meeting following Divine Service on **Sunday, August 20th**. The purpose for this special meeting is to approve a principal distribution from the Endowment Fund in the amount of \$300,000 in order to pay for the recommended building and property repairs and/or replacements. This list was first submitted to the Voters at the July Voters' Assembly. This motion has now been unanimously passed by the Endowment Committee as well as the Church Council. According to procedure, the motion now goes before the supreme authority of the Congregation, the Voters' Assembly. Because this motion has been identified as an exceptional case, under the By-Laws of our Constitution, the Special Voters' Meeting requires 50% of the total voting membership to comprise a quorum and a two-thirds vote to approve the motion. Should a quorum not be met, then voting ballots shall be mailed out to all qualified voting members. Therefore, it is important that all voters do their very best to be in attendance on Sunday, August 20th for this Special Voters' Meeting. It should be finally noted that according to the By-Laws, Associate Members are excluded from voting in this matter.

CHANGE OF VENUE

As the Lord continues to bless our Child Care Center and now our Day School, the students of our Day School will be using the small meeting room in Fellowship Hall (the Education Building), as their classroom for the school year 2017-2018. School begins this week on Thursday, August 10th. If your board, committee, group or activity is using this area, you will now be asked to use the larger meeting room. Groups effected by this change are the Monday Morning Quilters, all AA and Al-anon Meetings, and the Girl Scouts. If the larger room is already occupied by another scheduled group or activity, then you are free to use the Church Narthex. The following boards, committees, groups, or activities will be scheduled for use in the Church Narthex for their regular scheduled meetings or activities: The Church Council, School Board, Board of Elders, Board of Christian Education, and Senior Fellowship. We thank you so very much for your cooperation and continued support.

SERVING THE LORD

Pastor	Rev. James Kress
Child Care Director	Wendy Horvath
Office Secretary	Deb Anderson
Organist	Bill Bowers
Keyboardist	Elizabeth D'Amico
Choir Director	Collins Sita
Newsletter Editor	Pat Finkenbine

OFFICERS

President	Stephen Wurster
Vice President	Bill Bowers
Treasurer	
Secretary	June Brown

BOARDS

Head Elder	Paul Brown
Christian Ed.	
Human Care	Lisa Kress
Outreach	
Assimilation	
School Board	Laurie Steinke
Stewardship	
Youth	
Financial Secretary	Pam Replinger
Property Mgmt.	Jim Metzker

GROUPS/GUILDS

Ladies Guild	Sally Zierdt
Men's Group	
Altar Guild	
Coffee Hour	



Winston Churchill reportedly said

that “we make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.” According to Churchill then, our lives are defined less by what we have gotten, and more by what we give away.

Our Lord’s life is defined in this way. He gave completely of Himself for us. He became man for us. He taught the truth of God’s Word. He healed those with many and various diseases. He died the death that we deserve because of sin. He gave of Himself in order to save us from sin, death, and hell. And so, it is that by giving completely of Himself, He got for Himself us, making us citizens of His eternal kingdom by grace.

As it was for Jesus, so it is also for us. We get more from giving than we do from simply getting. For giving softens our hearts and frees us from the grip which the worries of this world and making a living has on us. For when we are singularly focused on making a living, we are singularly focused on what we get. That mindset begins to bleed into all areas of our lives—our relationships with friends and family, with neighbors and coworkers, and with the Lord. It shifts our focus from asking the question—How can I be a friend, family member, neighbor, and servant to others—to asking the question—what have they done for me lately. We become more selfish instead of selfless.

But when we give, we do not have less, we have more because when we give we join in the bond of friendship and family, the bond of service to those around us out of love for them. And love is the fulfillment of the Law. It is the nature of God Himself, for God is Love. Thus we are reflecting the divine nature. As Jesus said “It is more blessed to give than to receive” (Acts 20:35).



Run for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital

As you may already know Lisa and I are again running in the 40th Bank of America Chicago Marathon. Moreover, we are again running as St. Jude Heroes to support St. Jude Children's Research Hospital's lifesaving mission: Finding cures; Saving children. Many of you supported us last year in our effort to raise money for this worthy cause. Thank you again.



Guess what? We are training even harder this year. We don't want to disappoint the kids in need of help and healing. We also want to help make sure that families never receive a bill from St. Jude for treatment, travel, housing or food — because all a family should worry about is helping their child live joyfully.

We, once again, would like to ask for your prayerful and financial support to help us reach our fundraising goals. Each of us needs to raise \$1,500 before the deadline of Sept. 22nd. The 40th Chicago Marathon is Sunday, October 8th, but they need to receive the fundraising donations ahead of time. I hope you understand.

Please visit our personal pages below to make a donation. Please prayerfully help us reach our financial goals for the kids.

Lisa's personal page: http://heroes.stjude.org/lisa_kress

Pastor's personal page: http://heroes.stjude.org/jim_kress

Did you know that the daily operating cost for St. Jude is \$2.2 million, which is primarily covered by individual contributors? That means your donation, no matter what the size, will help! Did you also know St. Jude has treated children from all 50 states and from around the world. Treatments invented at St. Jude have helped push the overall childhood cancer survival rate from 20% to more than 80% since it opened more than 50 years ago.

Thank you in advance for your generosity and your support!

Yours in Jesus,
Pastor & Lisa Kress



Church email addresses have changed! Be sure to correct your email contact list to reflect the new addresses:

Pastor: redeempastor1@gmail.com

Church secretary: redeemerfl@gmail.com

Church treasurer: redemertreasurer1@gmail.com

Child Care: [redeemerchildcare@gmail.com](mailto:redemerchildcare@gmail.com)

FROM THE TREASURER

<i>Treasurer's Report</i>			
<i>As of June 30, 2017:</i>			
	<u>ACTUAL</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>OVER/(UNDER)</u>
INCOME	9,304	12,795	(3,491)
<u>EXPENSES</u>	<u>16,953</u>	<u>15,833</u>	1,120
+/-	(7,649)	(3,038)	
YEAR TO DATE			
INCOME	86,658	76,237	10,421
<u>EXPENSES</u>	<u>86,558</u>	<u>98,851</u>	(12,293)
+/-	100	(22,614)	



Respectfully submitted,
Jean Clappe-Mixell
North Star Bookkeeping LLC

PROPERTY APPRECIATION DAY

We sure could use some help on our Property Appreciation Days every month. There is outside work to do and cleaning and dusting that needs done inside the Church. If you can help, please come to the church and we will put you to work.

Our next Property Appreciation Day is Saturday, August 19th at 8:00 am.



SENIOR FELLOWSHIP

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

Classifieds



- | | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Lawn Care Services | Call Todd Armstrong at (941)961-7584 for your lawn care needs. |
| Real Estate Services | Call Bill Bowers at (941) 416-5661 for real estate assistance. |
| Cleaning Services | Call Kristine Baltimore at (941) 681-6514 for residential cleaning. |
| Pet Sitting Services | Do you need someone to watch your four legged friend?
Call Michelle Kalstrup, Certified Vet Tech (CVT) at 941-705-1726 or
email her at: pawfectsouls@yahoo.com or visit her at
www.pawfectsoulspetting.com |

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

MIGHTY FORTRESS VBS CELEBRATION

Mighty Fortress Vacation Bible School has come to a close. The children, leaders, and all the volunteers who participated strongly believe this year's VBS event was an amazing success! Many, many thanks go out to all the volunteers for lending their time and talents. You helped the children learn how Jesus defeated sin, death, and Satan for us! Through faith in Jesus Christ our sins are forgiven. In Jesus, the victory is won! We give special thanks to: Wendy Horvath, Pam Replinger, Pastor & Laurie Steinke, Elisabeth D'Amico, Bob Varone, Jean Cote, Becky & Dennis Dunn, June Brown, Mark Horvath, Pastor Kress, Emily Byrnett, Nicole Hopkins, Wendy Marker, Debby Buel, Brittany Smith, and Michele Smith. However, a special thanks needs to be delivered to Wendy Horvath, our VBS Coordinator, Nicole Hopkins, and Pam & Dennis Replinger for their magnificent work on this year's Mighty Fortress set. It was truly an amazing fortress. These dedicated and faithful Christians worked exceptionally hard on the preparation and planning to make this year's Mighty Fortress VBS experience for the children and volunteers, a memorable one. It was truly a Mighty Fortress!!



(Check out all the photos online at: <http://www.redeemerfl-cc.com/events-cl4xg>)



Sharing God's Mighty Word: Books for Kids

2017 VBS Mission Project

Through Sharing God's Mighty Word: Books for Kids from Concordia Gospel Outreach, we gathered offerings through the course of the week to show the love and mercy of Christ by providing books that tell the best story; God's story, to children who have not yet heard it. It is not too late for you to make a contribution also. Please use an envelope provided in the pew marking the envelope "VBS MISSION". Together we'll fill hands with books, as the Gospel fills hearts. Boys and girls, mothers and fathers will have the tools to learn about the amazing love of God in Jesus Christ. Thank you in advance for your offering and support of the great commission.





Vacation Bible School
July 17-21, 2017



PRAYERS

SHUT-INS: Carl Bertka, Judy Clasen, Susan Jahns, Rita Kaufman, Betty Keller.

HEALING: Members: Wilma Adair, Gretchen Armstrong, Neva Aldene, Paul Brown, Charlie & Pat Finkenbine, Denise Fountain, Mike Guastella, Bernice Heppner, Paula Maramonte, Ken Mielke, Leslie Miles, Marlene Mossner, Tom Poyer, Duwayne Schoeneck, Fred Toth, Bob Varone, Robert Vickey, Bud Vierk, Larry Wiech, and Artie Zipp.

FRIENDS & RELATIVES: Linny Aspery, Jean Bajner, Bert Blackford, Grace Blum, Michelle Bernard, Bill Bowers, Jr., Dennis Burchell, Georgia Bush, Kirsten Campbell, Jack Carlos, Diane Carr, Sally Chambers, Esther Clapham, Bobbett Clark, Dick Clemens, Joanne and Randy Clymo, Martin Cressman, Molly Criely, Renee Dempsey, Dale DesJardins, Ed Detrow, Rital Devine, Irene DiTommaso, Barb Dumeah, Bruce Everson, Donna Fancher, Darla Finkenbine, Gerald and Mary Fischer, Marla Flores, Lou Fountain, Manual Galan, Liam Garland, Sandra Gettings, Nancy Gleis, Fran Grenon, Mary Guilfoyle, Melisa Gustavus, Shelley Roedel Gutz, Marlene Hagen, the Family & Friends of Harold Hale, Jake Harper, Debbie Harrison, Larry Headun, Claudette Hendershot, Joel Heppner,

Walter Heppner, Glory Herget, Robin Hincman, David Hirtle, Larry Hladun, Linda Holt, John Hunter, Linda Hunter, Stanley and Lynne Jablonski, Bill Jaquest, Chris Johnson, Heather Johnson, Rachel Kagay, Steve Kallsen, John Kearns, Rev. Michael Kettner, Elizabeth Lynn Klopfenstein, Erin Kress, Stacey Lampert, Ray Likowski, John Lockhart, Sean Maki, Joe Manson, The Maxson Family, Candace McGowan, Pete Mogg, Mike Morrissey, Trista Mosier, Esther Murphy, Charles Pentecost Jr., John Purdy, Mary Raines, Preston & Bryson Ricker, Rev. Ronald Rock, Sally Rodgers, Nancy Sly, Luke Suski, Charles Tolley, the Family & Friends of Clara Jo Toth, Samantha Jo Ann Toth, the Family & Friends of Mary Vasko, George Vespa, Steven Walker, Christy Wallace, Helen Weishaar, Gordan Winkel, and Mary Ann Zipp.

Military Personnel: Mark Baranowsky, Nicholas Beltz, Michael Broughton, Brian Jackson, Jonathan Koen, David MacLeod, Steven Siegmundt 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 SEPTEMBER Newsletter is August 20th
Please have all your submissions sent to patchas123@gmail.com
OR drop it off at the church office by the date indicated above.
Thank You!***

PRAYERS

Please teach me, Lord ...
I want to know
Exactly how to pray.
I need some words
Which ones are right?
Please tell me what to say.



I've bowed my head
I have knelt down,
But ... should I be upright?
I've closed my eyes,
I've raised my hands,
Or ... should I fold them tight?

Do I stand up?
Should I sit down?
Dear Lord ... what do you like?
Are lights turned on
Or are they off?
Maybe ... candle light?

Wear my glasses?
Take them off?
Be at my desk or table?
Should I whisper?
Speak out loud?
Do I quote the Bible?

What do you think
About the time?
Do You prefer the dawn?
Should I pray fast,
Or keep it slow?
Better short ... or long?

I'm new at this
What are the rules?
I want to do it right.
How do I know
You'll even feel
That I am in Your sight?

And while I sat there quietly,
Waiting for some sign,
I heard a gentle voice say,
"Oh, dearest child of mine ...

Do you think I really care
About the time of day,
Or whether you are standing up,
Or kneeling when you pray?"

"I don't care about your posture,
Or about the place you choose;
Just open up your soul to me,
I have no other rules.

Tell me what is in your heart,
And tell me what you seek;
Tell me of your sorrows,
And of things that made you weak."

"Speak to me in private
About what concerns you most;
I know about your good deeds ...
You have no need to boast.

My child, you don't need lessons,
Just talk to me each day;
Tell me anything you want, dear child,
Anyone can pray."

~ Virginia Ellis ~

Those who Serve

ALTAR GUILD SCHEDULE



Date	Set-up	Clean-up
Sun, Aug 6th	Lisa Kress	Bob Varone
Sun, Aug 13th	Gretchen Armstrong	Lisa Kress
Sun, Aug 20th	Bob Varone	Jane Harty
Sun, Aug 27th	Lisa Kress	Gretchen Armstrong



ELDER & COMMUNION ASSISTANT SCHEDULE

Date	Elder & Reader	Communion Asst
Sun, Aug 6th	Paul Brown	Dennis Replinger
Sun, Aug 13th	Collins Sita	Mark Horvath
Sun, Aug 20th	Mike Nagel	Steve Wurster
Sun, Aug 27th	Bob Varone	Steve Horvath



Date	Crucifier	Acolyte
Sun, Aug 6th	Daniel Black	Therin McDowall
Sun, Aug 13th	Alyssa Hancock	Ava Tosto
Sun, Aug 20th	Mackenzie McDowall	Kyleigh Evanicki
Sun, Aug 27th	Toby Hancock	Jayden Bishop

WEBSITES: Church — www.redeemerfl.com Child Care — www.redeemerfl-cc.com
 School — www.redeemerfl-school.com FACEBOOK: [Redeemer Lutheran Church](https://www.facebook.com/RedeemerLutheranChurch)

BIBLE STUDY

NEW SUMMER SERIES BIBLE CLASS

This summer in the church Narthex, a number of Bible Class Series are being offered to all members and friends of the Redeemer family each **Wednesday at 10 AM**. The first series is called *Comfort for Christians*.

In this series, you will learn how through God's Word He comforts you, builds you up, and equips you to reach out to others, who are lost, lonely, troubled, or grieving. This particular study consists of short 4-session Bible studies with life-application suggestions. Session One focuses on Comfort for Troubled



Sinner; Session Two, Comfort for Troubled Marriages and Families; Session Three, Comfort for the Despondent; and Session Four, Comfort for the Grieving.

If you find any interest in one or all of these sessions come join us this Wednesday. Use this Summer Series of Bible Classes to gain insight into the Scriptures. Learn what God is saying about Himself, about you, and about His Good News of salvation in Jesus Christ.

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS

Never has a Bible Class been so important to attend. The future of the Church and our freedom is at stake. Although we will always be free in Christ Jesus, the entire world is rapidly under siege and held in fear of a violent ideology. Therefore, I call upon all members of Redeemer Lutheran Church to attend this eye opening and mind awakening class beginning **Sunday, June 4th at 8 AM** in our sanctuary.

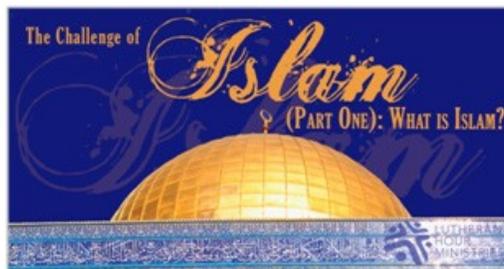
To the Western mind, the faith and practice of Islam are often a profound mystery. In recent years, this religion has emerged as a prominent – yet misunderstood – belief system. Listen as Sam Shamoun, an Arab-Christian, unveils some of the mystique surrounding this religion first preached by Muhammad and today practiced by more than one billion people worldwide.

In Part One of this two-part Bible Class the teachings of Islam are brought into focus. In addition to learning about the “Five Pillars of Islam,” participants will examine what the Quran says about the role of Abraham, the Trinity, angels and jinn (genies), the attributes

of Jesus Christ, the character of Muhammad, Judgment Day, and paradise.

The Quran is the premier Muslim holy book. As such, its 114 chapters are the faith-guide for Muslims everywhere. For instance, did you know the Quran claims Jesus is not God, nor is He the Son of God? Were you aware Quranic teaching says the religion of the patriarchs – Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, as well as all the prophets – is Islam? Shamoun asks, “Christians, do you see the challenge of Islam, and are you prepared to deal with this challenge?”

While Islam is a religious force to be reckoned with, it already has been dealt its deathblow through the atoning work of Jesus Christ. Armed with love and an attitude that considers Muslims – like everyone else – those for whom Christ died, Christians can share the same Good News that gives them salvation. As Shamoun says, “The only thing that can defeat Islam is the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ.





August 2017

June 2017

Bible Lessons

Chapel is on Mondays at
3:45

7/31 Jesus Calls His
Disciples

Luke 5:1-11

8/17 Jesus Calms the
Storm

Matthew 8:23-27

8/14 Hannah Prays for a
child

1 Samuel 1:1-20

8/21 Samuel as a Boy

1 Samuel 1:21-28;3

8/28 David Defeats Go-
liath

1 Samuel 17



Dear Jesus,
Thank You for helping
little people with big
problems. Amen

Submitted by Wendy Horvath

Birthdays

Aycen 8/6

Tucker 8/7

DJ 8/9

Kacen 8/13

Carson 8/17

Aubrey R. 8/17

Mr. Mark 8/18

Mitchell 8/20

Jordin D. 8/21



Congratulations on
your years of service!



Ms. Wendy Horvath
15 Years

Building

Stop by and check out
our newly decorated
classrooms

Redeemer School

Home of The Bears!

Stop by and check out
our new classrooms

8/10 Redeemer
Kindergarten & 1st
Grade Start

Special Days in
August

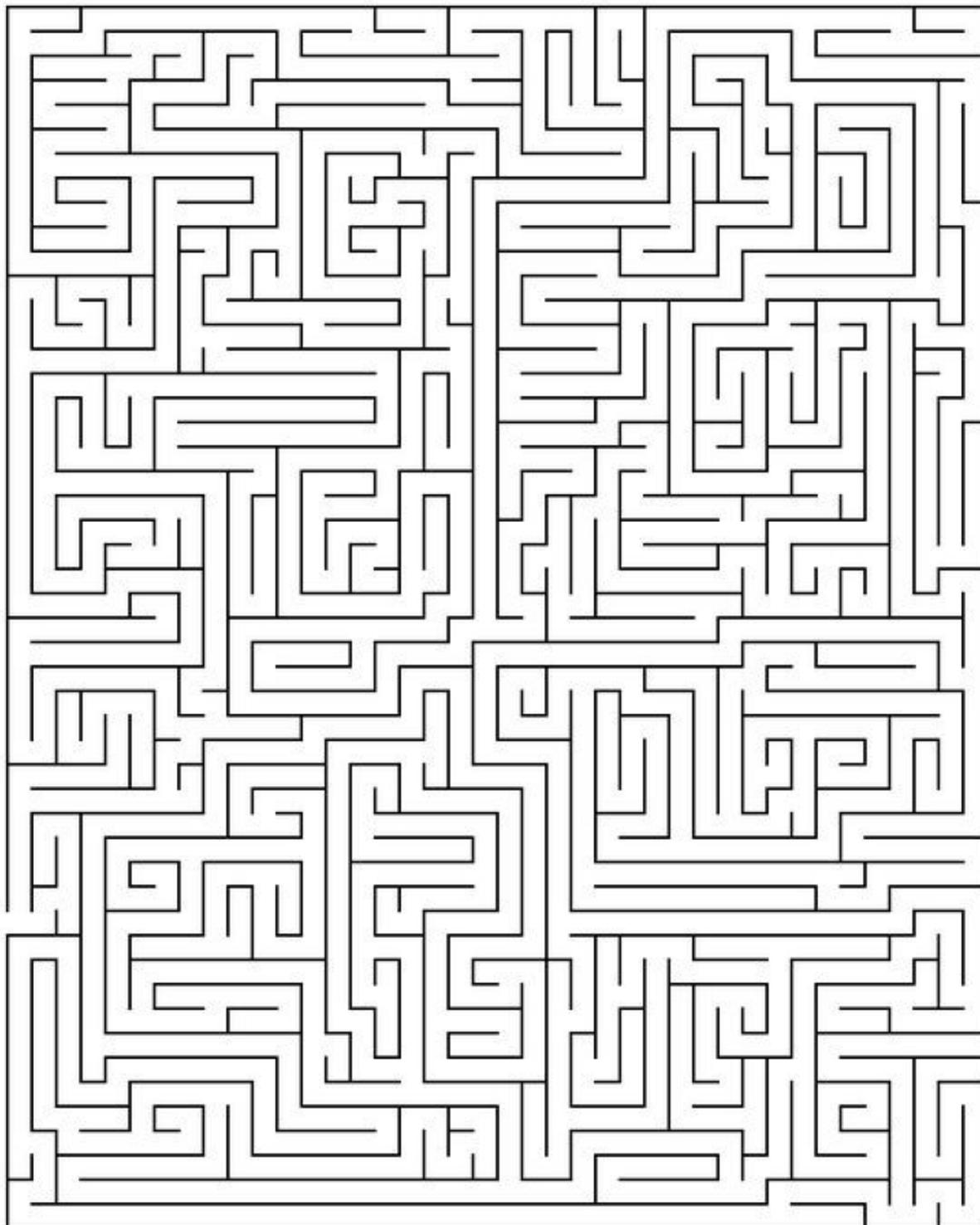
8/10 VPK Class Starts
8/10 Public School Starts



Welcome

Welcome to Redeemer!
Ms. Nicole P, Ms. Brandy,
Ms. Debra M. &
Ms. Kimberly
Welcome Back
Ms. Cherylann
Thank you for a great
Summer Ms. Michelle &
Ms. Stephanie

PUZZLE PAGE



You make known to me the path of life;
you will fill me with joy in your presence,
with eternal pleasures at your right hand. Psalm 16;10

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

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REV. JAMES T. KRESS, SR.
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REDEEMER REPORTER

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WORSHIP SERVICES:

Bible Class: 8:00 AM
Divine Service: 9:15 AM
Sunday School: 9:15 AM

CHURCH OFFICE PHONE: 941-475-2410

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).*