

REDEEMER REPORTER

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH - APRIL 2012

“A SEASON TO REJOICE, A REASON TO BE SAD”

We have traveled through the season of Lent and have now come to Holy Week with the joyful celebration of Easter, the Resurrection of our Lord. In His resurrection from the dead, Jesus has defeated sin, death, and the power of the evil one. This is truly a season to rejoice about. Yet, we have nearly concluded another season of visitation from our northern brothers and sisters in Christ and it is time to say good-bye. And yes this is a reason to be sad.

Over the past three to four months I have had the opportunity to meet and/or correspond with many, many visitors to our area. I hope that you will visit us again next season. And as you travel, you will be in my prayers. May the Lord grant you safe travel, send heavenly angels to provide protection, and bring you to the joys of Easter with your family and friends. I will miss you.

A handful of weeks ago, I was asked if I would be able to provide an explanation of some of the things that we as Lutherans do. Well, since it is April and we begin immediately with Holy Week, I suppose this would be a good place to start. So what is this thing we call Holy Week and the special days within it? What is the history of the annual celebrations that happen in this week leading to Easter? In other words, though we know that the events that we remember during Holy Week really happened to Jesus (e.g., the procession into Jerusalem, the Last Supper, His death on the cross, His resurrection), when did Christians begin to annually observe them as we do? And, what is the significance of our observances today? This newsletter article will attempt to offer a brief introduction.

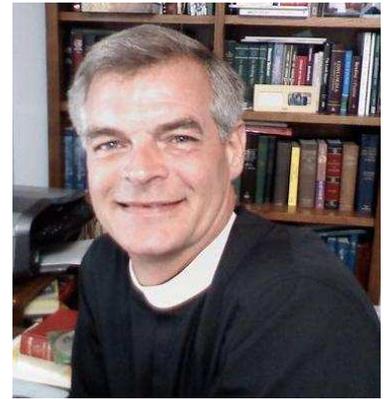
Holy Week

As we now practice it, Holy Week is the last week of the 40 day season of Lent and the week proceeding the season of Easter. In Holy Week, which begins on Palm Sunday, we focus on the last week of Christ's life, remembering especially His passion and resurrection. Though calling this week “Holy Week” is more of a recent innovation, the annual observance of the festivals within it is of ancient origin. Let us look into them.

Maundy Thursday

Maundy Thursday (also known as Holy Thursday)

remembers the events in the upper room the night before Jesus died. These upper room events are described in Matthew 26:20-30, Mark 14:17-26, Luke 22:14-35, and Chapter 13-17 according to the Gospel of John. Matthew, Mark, and Luke focus on the



institution of the Lord's Supper and the eating of the Passover meal. While John focuses on the words of Jesus and His washing of the disciple's feet.

The name “Maundy” comes from the words of Jesus from John 13:34, “*Mandatum novum*” (“a new commandment”). From the Fourth Century on, Maundy Thursday was viewed as the last day of the Lenten fast and also as the day of reconciliation (when those excommunicated could repent and be reconciled, that is, received back into the Church).

Since it was on this night that Jesus instituted the Lord's Supper, that sacred meal has often been the chief emphasis of Maundy Thursday. The Lord's Supper is celebrated and often its meaning is explained. At the end of the service, the altar is stripped, in preparation for Good Friday. This symbolizes Christ being stripped by the Roman soldiers prior to His crucifixion. Psalm 22, a Messianic psalm which clearly prophesies the Messiah's death, is read or sung either by the congregation, choir, or cantor after the altar is stripped.

Good Friday and Easter

As we would expect, Christ's crucifixion and resurrection have been annually observed from the earliest times. Christ's crucifixion and resurrection are described in detail in Matthew chapters 27-28, Mark chapters 15-16, Luke chapters 23-24, and John chapters 19-21. However, Christ's crucifixion and resurrection were not celebrated exactly as we do now. With the following texts in mind: John 1:29, “Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the

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

OFFICERS

President	Rich Kueker
Vice President	
Treasurer	Judy Murphy
Secretary	Dorothy Sinowetski

BOARDS

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

CLUBS/GUILDS

Ladies Guild	Doris Dykhuizen
Men's Group	Bob Mortenson

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Your Church Council has completed the revisions to Redeemer's Constitution. Many thanks again to Ray Altman, Margie Cypher, Earl Stuck (the constitution committee) and the Council for the long hours needed to complete this task. Copies of the revised Constitution are available in the narthex for voter review. Lined out items were part of the old with their revisions being underlined. The voter's assembly will be asked to approve these revisions at the quarterly voter's meeting to be held at 9:15 on Sunday April 22. In closing, I would like to once again remind all of you that your help is needed on various committees. Men and women are needed on the Altar Guild, men are needed to be communion assistants, and there are needs on many of our committees. We are also in need of appointing a vice-president for our congregation. Please give prayerful consideration to filling these needs.

Respectfully, Rich Kueker



HUMAN CARE

Members of the Human Care Board are: Joan Bowers, Carol Carlos, Daniel Fernandez, Lessie Kirch, Deb Kueker, Mary Ann Sochacki, Mary Kay Straw and KC Wright.

The Human Care Board is responsible for: Caring Network, Stephen Ministry, Health Care, Care Notes & Devotional Books, Christmas Angel Tree, Boxes to our Service Men & Women, Hurricane Season Preparedness and Visiting our Members who are in Nursing Facilities. Carol Sheahan continues with the Blood Drive. Ed and Carol Sheahan continue with the Crop Walk.

A great big thank you to Ed and Carol!

Hope to see you all at our first Health talk "Benefits of Massage Therapy" by our own Daniel Fernandez, Monday April 16th. At 1:00pm in the Fellowship Hall.. A thank you to Mary Ann Sochacki, our Health Care Advocate for her hard work in this endeavor.

"Let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers". Galatians 6:10

Submitted by Carol Carlos

"A SEASON TO REJOICE, A REASON TO BE SAD" - CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

sin of the world!" and 1 Corinthians 5:7-8, "Cleanse out the old leaven that you may be a new lump, as you really are unleavened. For Christ, our Passover lamb has been sacrificed. Let us therefore celebrate the festival, not with the old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth." The first Christians celebrated Christ's crucifixion and resurrection in one festival, called the *Pascha* (Greek for "Passover").

The earliest evidence we possess points to the *Pascha* as the first of the annual Christian festivals. In fact, in the Second Century a church-wide split of staggering proportions almost occurred over the correct dating and meaning of the *Pascha*. The Christians in Asia Minor, citing the practice of the apostle John, bishop Polycarp and others, claimed that the Christian *Pascha* should be observed on the 14/15 of Nissan (the seventh day of the week), just as the Old Testament commanded (*cf.* Exodus 12). The rest of Christendom, including the bishop of Rome, Irenaeus, and the bishop of Jerusalem, held that the *Pascha* should culminate on the Sunday (since it was the day Jesus rose) after the first full moon after the vernal equinox. In the end the majority view won out. In recent years there has been a return in some quarters to a celebration of the *Pascha*, one festival celebrated over three days: Good Friday, Holy Saturday, and Easter Sunday.

Easter, the celebration of Christ's resurrection, is the queen of the Christian holy days. The word "Easter" and the German "Ostern" come from a common source, referring to the direction from which the sun rises. In other words, the word referred to the celebration of the spring sun, when all things returned to life. This symbolism was transferred to the resurrection of Christ who brings us new life.

As mentioned above, the earliest word for the annual celebration of Christ's resurrection was probably *Pascha*. As to the dating of Easter, this has been fixed ever since the Council of Nicea in 325. At Nicea it was decided that Easter would occur on the Sunday following the first full moon after the spring equinox, which occurs between March 22 and April 25.

Easter celebrates Christ's victory over sin, death, and the devil, as well as the promise of our justification and everlasting life. The season of Easter lasts 50 days until the day of Pentecost (This year that celebration will occur on May 27th).

Holy Week is a marvelous opportunity for Christian growth. It offers incredible potential for satisfying spiritual hunger. It does this by exposing those who attend its services to God's Word and Sacrament. In other words, we grow in Holy Week not by imitating Christ's last days, rather we grow as the Holy Spirit works through the Gospel and Sacrament that we hear and receive during these days. This Holy Week, may each of you come and taste and see that the Lord is good! And despite seeing our friends return north, may we continue to see growth here at Redeemer during the Easter Season.

Happy Easter,
Pastor Kress

STEPHEN MINISTRY

"In the shadow of your wings, I will take refuge, until the storms pass by." Psalm 57 v1b

As we reflect on the passage above, and think about our present situation, along with the status of the USA, our beloved country of freedom and hope, many of us ask WHY! Why has my job disappeared or hours cut back, health care coverage becomes more and more uncertain, prices at the gas pumps rise at an unbelievable rate. This affects everything from groceries, utilities, our everyday needs such as medication, day care for our children, schools and the list goes on and on. On top of this, we hear about fierce storms, tornadoes, and unrelenting devastation, both here and abroad. Many of us face loneliness, death of a loved one, loss of our home, broken relationships, unrelenting stress, continual conflict in the home, etc. Our natural tendency is to just say, "Stop world, I want to get off!" But, where would you go????

We learn from David, in the Psalms, who personally recognized how stressful threatening times could be, but yet refused to let anything get him down. He steadfastly believed in his heavenly Father and we pray that you do too. God DOES have a purpose, a plan for your life in the very moment of the threatening times in your life. (Ps. 57 v2). He and you know of the promised dawn of a new day and confidently face each day with a song of thanksgiving (Ps. 57 v7-9). Read this psalm over and over again and feel God's presence and hope.

We, too, can be just as strong as David in threatening times because of Christ. During Lent, we, again, can walk with Jesus as He sets His face towards Jerusalem and a cross. He lived in the moment for our salvation in the Upper Room, the Mount of Olives, the Judgment Hall and the Place of the Skull (Luke 22-23). Walk with Him on your journey, no matter what it is! Reach out to those around you, those He has placed in your path. In the shadow of the cross and protected by Christ's forgiveness and grace, think and pray about how YOU will face the dawn of opportunity to bring hope and healing to others. God cares and so do we! We are here for you through Christ who strengthens us!

Redeemer's Stephen Ministry Group

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

The Sunday School children along with children from the child care will be processing with palm branches and singing "Hosanna, Loud Hosanna" (Hymn 443) on Palm Sunday. They will be singing "The Lamb" (Hymn 547) at the Easter Sunday service. Also, we would like to invite you to the annual Easter egg hunt that will take place at 9:30 AM on Easter Sunday. There will be light snacks and activities provided as well. All are welcome to attend. As always, if you have little ones in your life or know of a family with children who might like to attend Sunday School, we encourage you to invite them. Sunday School hours are 9:15 to 10:15 every Sunday! Hope to see you there.

Submitted by Tricia Hopkins



LICENSED MASSAGE THERAPIST

On Monday April 16, 2012 at 1pm in fellowship hall Daniel Fernandez LMT (Licensed Massage Therapist) will be giving a lecture and demonstration on the benefits of massage therapy. The lecture will be approximately 1hour in length. In November of 2007, Daniel opened his office in Englewood in hopes of having an impact on the health and well being of the residents of our community. This lecture will be open to the congregation and the community if you are interested in attending; please sign the sheet in the narthex and include the number of people attending.

FROM THE TREASURER'S DESK

2011 Church Actual vs. Budget Through Feb. 29th, 2012

<i>Income Budget</i>	<i>Income Received</i>	<i>Expenses</i>
\$22,676.50	\$22,361.26	\$22,276.40

The Newsletter deadline for the May Newsletter is April 15th. Please have all your submissions to the church office by that time. Thank you. Electronic submissions are best sent to redemerfl@verizon.net

PROPERTY APPRECIATION DAY

Please join us for our monthly "Property Appreciation" Day on the second Saturday of the month, April 14th!!! Join us in keeping our buildings and properties beautiful. There's a little something to do for anyone willing to help... For more information please contact Charlie Vovcsko at 941-266-5118. THANK YOU!-*Property Management*

SPECIAL THANKS

A special thanks from Helping Hands to our faithful volunteers for your time spent at Helping Hands this past week: Dorothy Sinowetski, Helen Sturzenbecker, Dale Whipple, Mike Muldoon, Linda Rogers, Arlene Harden and Paul and Vicky Davis. Thank you to the Redeemer congregation for your continued food donations. We couldn't do this without you all.

KRISTINE STOUT HANDBELL CONCERT

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

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

REDEEMER TRADITION LIVES ON

Thank you Jesus! We had volunteers who made our Palm Sunday Crosses. My personal apologies for my shortcomings, but our valiant troops carried on beautifully. They were: Carol Sheahan, Karen Kirkland, Judy Murphy, Lee Procuk, Margie Cypher, Sybil Grahl and Mary Lou as guest, and even Pastor Kress who left-handedly made crosses! Our Redeemer family is the greatest and the tradition lives on! Thank you and yours in Christ – Marie Talley

LUTHERAN WOMEN'S MISSIONARY LEAGUE

All women at Redeemer are invited to attend the Lutheran Women's Missionary League Spring Rally at Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church at 7461 Prospect Rd, Sarasota on Sat. April 14. Please give the \$6.00 registration fee, which includes lunch, to Vicky Davis or Avis Stuck by Sunday, April 8. We will carpool from Church via cars or the Church van leaving at 8 am. The only ingathering will be a monetary gift from our LWML treasury to cover the cost of a Shelter Box in providing aid to disaster survivors as they rebuild their lives. Guest speakers will be Shelter Box Representatives and Pastor Todd Kuehn, Specific Ministry Pastor. Plan NOW to see Vicky or Avis and enjoy this Inspirational day with Lutheran Women in Mission!

Submitted by Vicky Davis

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING**February 13, 2012**

Present: Pastor Kress, Rich Kueker, Tim Byrne, Karen Kirkland, Carol Haupt, Charlie Vovcsko, Deb Kueker, Pam Replinger, Dorothy Sinowetski, Judy Murphy

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

MINUTES: The minutes of the January 9th meeting were presented. PAM MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES AS PRESENTED. CHARLIE SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED.

CALENDAR: The calendar for March was updated.

REPORTS**PASTOR:**

- There will be imposition of ashes on Ash Wednesday.
- Bob & Neva Aldene were accepted as associate members.
- Received by transfer: Chuck & Enid Muhme.
- Dolores Baird transferred to Lakeside.
- There will be a circuit meeting on March 1st at Lakeside. Redeemer nominated Rev. Gaulke as the next circuit counselor.
- The choice of delegates to the convention must be sent to the district by February 29th. Registration is May 1st. Pasotr is our delegate and Tim Byrne is the lay delegate.
- The Armstrong wedding was on February 4th.
- The Byrne wedding was on February 11th.

ELDERS:

- Approved associate members Aldene and transfer of the Muhme family. Also, Rev. Mark Steinke will assist Redeemer during the winter months and will visit the shut-ins and hospital calls as needed. He will be paid for mileage only. TIM MADE A MOTION TO ACCEPT REV. STEINKE AS THE ASSISTANT WINTER PASTOR. CHARLIE SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED.
- Tim will go to the convention June 22nd - 24th.
- TIM MOVED TO HAV E BILL BOWERS PRESENT HIS PRESENTION REGARDING THE ANGEL FUND AT BOTH SERVICES ON FEB. 26TH. PAM SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED.
- The week before, Ed Sheahan will report on the upcoming CROP WALK at both services.

TREASURER: Report Attached. Judy Murphy reported. The auditor requested that money to the Child Care be reported so #5504 created. Cash offerings will go into the church account and Judy will write a check to the Child Care. It was recommended that Wendy not go online to do her banking as there will be no check/balance. She can go online to get her total available.

ASSIMILATION: Deb Kueker reported.

- Welcomed into membership on 1/29: Rev. Mark & Laurie Steinke by transfer. Joseph & Paula Maramonte as associate members.
- Agreed to contribute \$200 toward quite room work.
- Agreed to make a donation of \$20 per month to the Angel Scholarship Fund.
- There is a need for 3 more members to cover duties for the year.
- Assisted Outreach at the New Member Dinner.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION: Children will sing in church Feb. 19th. Pam thanked all the people who helped. PAM MADE A MOTION THAT COUNCIL WILL APPROVE AND SUPPORT TRICIA HOPKINS AS THE SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT, KAREN SECONDED, MOTION CARRIED.

OUTREACH: Carol Haupt reported. Over 130 people attended the new member dinner. The "Speed Witness" workshops helped how to witness to others. Feb. 19th is Friendship Sunday and all members are encouraged to bring friends to church.

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT: Charlie reported. The Al-Anon group will meet every Wednesday at 7:00 PM beginning April 4th. Property management day was very successful. 7 members worked form 7:30am - Noon. Some jobs completed: Ladies room toilet, floors cleaned and brushed, lift station work completed. Future work to be done: carpet replaced at wheel chair ramps in front of the fellowship hall and re-stain concrete.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

CONSTITUTION: Council went through page by page making changes and/corrections. Only a portion was done and due to the late hour, it was decided to continue with this at the next council meeting. It was also decided to meet at 6pm. It is hoped that it will be completed in time to present to the Voter's assembly in April.

CORRESPONDANCE: Received a letter from Donna Ferguson who thanked us for our friendship, gift bag, and Lutheran prayer book. She was very grateful that her son Jim Straw has joined us as a member.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10pm with a prayer from Pastor and the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Dorothy Sinowetski, Congregation Secretary

STEWARDSHIP

April is a very special month during this calendar year of 2012 for a number of reasons. The most important reason is that we celebrate Easter on April 8th. This special day and this Easter season remind us that we are Easter people, that is, people of hope. At Easter time we join with the saints of old and the saints of today in greeting each other with these words: ***“Jesus Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!”***

The victory of Jesus over sin, death and the devil is at the very center of the Christian Gospel. If Christ had not been raised from the dead we would have to say with St. Paul that ***“our faith is futile and we are still in our sins and if only in this life we have hope in Christ, we are to be pitied more than all men.”*** (1 Corinthians 15:17-19).

With confidence we believe with all the saints that because Christ lives, never to taste death again, we too shall rise to a new life that will never end! What hope and joy we have in Christ, especially when life on this side of heaven becomes painful with many disappointments and tears. In Christ, ***the best is yet to come!***

Another reason why April is special is that the deadline for filing our income taxes occurs during this month. Of course, for those who were looking for tax refunds, they filed early. For others of us who choose to wait we will have one more day of

grace since April 15th is a Sunday. Our deadline is April 16th. Big deal, right???

Taxes have been a cause of pain and stress for many generations, even centuries. It was that way in the time of Christ. When His enemies tried to trap Jesus with the question of whether or not it was lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, Jesus wisely asked them to show him a coin. He asked them whose portrait and inscription was on the coin. ***“Caesar’s,”*** they replied. Then Jesus said those famous words: ***“Give to Caesar what is Caesar’s, and to God what is God’s.”*** (Matthew 22:15-22)

The words of Jesus remind us that all authorities (even those we may not like) have been instituted by God. For the Christians of the early New Testament times the governing power was from Rome, a very corrupt and anti-Christian power, and yet Christians then and now are to submit to the governing authorities, even those which seem so corrupt. So, we pay our taxes as Christians, but we also pray that our leaders would lead in God-pleasing and people-blessing ways. Therefore, we vote, we stand up for our faith and values, we make our voices heard, and we do whatever we can to help raise our nation to higher moral and spiritual ground.

EXPLANATION OF LUTHER’S SEAL



Recently I was asked about the seal that appears in various places around the church, whether it appears in publications, banners, or art work. I explained that it is Luther’s seal and that each symbol represents an expression of his theology. I thought I would use this space to explain, in Dr. Martin Luther’s own words, the meaning of his seal.

“The first thing expressed in my seal is a cross, black, within the heart, to put me in mind that faith in Christ crucified saves us. ‘For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness’ (Romans 10:10).

“Now, although the cross is black, mortified, and intended to cause pain, yet it does not change the color of the heart, does not destroy nature – i.e., does not kill, but keeps alive. ‘For the just shall live by faith’ (Romans 1:17) – by faith in the Savior.

“But this heart is fixed upon the center of a white rose, to show that faith causes joy, consolation and peace. The rose is white, not red, because white is the ideal color of all angels and blessed spirits.

“This rose, moreover, is fixed in a sky-colored ground, to denote that such joy of faith in the spirit is but an earnest and beginning of heavenly joy to come, as anticipated and held by hope, though not yet revealed.

“And around this ground-base is a golden ring, to signify that such bliss in heaven is endless, and more precious than all the joys and treasures, since gold is the best and most precious metal. Christ, our dear Lord, He will give grace unto eternal life.”

While a professor at Wittenberg, Luther devised this seal which he declared was meant to be “expressive of his theology.” This explanation is the gist of a letter written to his friend, Herr Spengler, town clerk of Nuremberg.

I hope this brief explanation, in Dr. Luther’s own words, was helpful to you in understanding his passion in explaining the simple truths of the faith by using signs and symbols to illustrate God the Father’s love for mankind through the merit of His Son and through the ongoing work of the Holy Spirit.

Yours in Christ, Pastor Kress

PRAYERS

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

HEALING: Members: Alice Borowski, Kathryn Demma, Donna Hansen, Bob Johnson, Cliff Larsen, Jim Libke, Gary Lute, Sandy McGrath, Clara Mitchell, Bob Mortenson, Bob Payne, Herb Petersen, Don Plesner, Ron Ratzlaff, Michael Sanders, Vern Speer, Marie Talley, Fred & Clara Jo Toth, Ronald Woller.

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

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

Pastor and members of the church are always willing to pray for you, family members and friends. If a loved one appears on our prayer list above, please call pastor or the church office to give us a health update. Thank you.



COFFEE HOUR

April 1st

Donna Wolf

April 8th

Easter Breakfast

April 15th

Sue Poyer, Carol Spooner

April 22nd

Arlene Harden, Linda Rogers

April 29th

Judy Murphy, Leona Procuik

Provided by Assimilation

JERRY SCHREINER

Many of you may already know one of our associate members, Jerry Schreiner, but I wanted to share with you all something you may not know about him. He is a beautiful wood-carver. Jerry has been wood-carving on and off for over twenty years. He was taught by a gentleman from Germany who lived in Michigan. This man, George Keilhoffer was working as a “tourist attraction” in Frankenmuth, Michigan. When Jerry started what was then a new business, his son decided to give him the gift of lessons in wood-carving as a stress reliever and so he would be forced to relax a bit. Jerry took lessons from George Keilhoffer for seven years until he sadly passed away. Jerry recently attended a “Wood-Carving Roundup” in Clearwater, Florida to now learn deep-relief carving. Jerry works on his carvings in his free time and enjoys the peaceful feeling of creating something with his own hands. The carving shown in the picture are of his grand-daughter Emily and the giraffe was carved for her as well, though many other have been made for his other grandchildren. The leaf relief carving was made during his class in Clearwater. As talented as Jerry is, may we all look forward to seeing many more of his wonderful creations!

Submitted by Jennifer Steele



“Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!” (Mark 11:9, NIV). Blessed are we who worship in his name.



The purpose of the gospel

The gospel of John records many signs and miracles that Jesus performed in front of his disciples. Discover why these were written.

Directions: Use a Bible to fill in the missing letters of John 20:31. Then write the shape-enclosed letters in the corresponding boxes and circles below, in order of appearance, to discover John's message.

“ ... e ie e hat es u s

is th es iah, the S n

of od, nd tha by

be ing ou m y

ha e lif i hi na e.”

JOHN 20:31, NIV

Answers: “ ... believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.” Just Believe!



The Carlos Family Times

"So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal." 2 Corinthians 4:18

Together In Mission to Guinea, West Africa

February 2012



News from the Porch

Isn't this a great photo! We love it! This gentleman received eyeglasses from us this month, and as you can see, he really needed them. While we were in the US recently, we received glasses from the Lions Club. We requested some very strong prescriptions because we knew there were some people who needed them. This man was the recipient of a pair of them. What a joy it was to fit him with these eyeglasses!

We have seen plenty of people this past month. Our porch has been a busy place. Often times we see the same problems over and over again. The most common things we see are high blood pressure, cataracts, eye infections, constipation, malnutrition, anemia, back problems, and malaria. We try to provide as much information and education as possible so that people know what has caused the problems they are experiencing, how they can be treated (we emphasize, as much as possible, lifestyle and dietary changes as treatments), and how they can prevent the problems from reoccurring in the future.

On days when we have electricity, we have been able to play a mix of African music and audio Bible stories in Maninka – the local language - for the people who are waiting to be seen. People have been enjoying it and we are praying that it will get people wondering and talking about it.

We continue to pray for each person we see and our Saturday prayer days have been well attended. Thank you too, for praying for us and for all the people here in Guinea. We have shared that our brothers & sisters in Christ in the United States are praying for the people here in Siguiri and people are deeply touched by this fact. Thank you for your faithfulness and support!

Freedom in Christ

The beginning of Lent has sparked quite a bit of conversation among some of the new believers in our church. This past Sunday, there were questions about how they should be fasting during the season of Lent. You see, these converts from Islam somehow see Lent as the Christian version of Ramadan (the Muslim month of fasting). Some of the new believers wanted to know exactly how they should fast and if there were specific rules to follow. Many of the mature Christians in our congregation spoke up and helped them understand that although some people do choose to fast or engage in other spiritual disciplines during the season of Lent, that it is not an obligation. They also helped them understand that these spiritual disciplines should be between a believer and God – a time when believers remember what Christ did for them and that it should not become a point of pride or a pious activity.

This was a real eye-opener for us. It made us realize how astoundingly difficult it can be for anyone, but perhaps even harder for a Muslim convert, to grasp the free gift we have in Christ through His awesome sacrifice on the cross. What amazing love! It is remarkable, unbelievable, incredible, fantastic!

Please pray for the new Maninka believers as they grow in their faith, that they may "with both feet planted firmly on love, you'll be able to take in with all followers of Jesus the extravagant dimensions of Christ's love. Reach out and experience the breadth! Test its length! Plumb the depths! Rise to the heights! Live full lives, full in the fullness of God." (Ephesians 3:17-18 – *The Message*) Pray also for the seekers, like our former night watchman, Allan, that the season of Lent would be a time when the Holy Spirit would move in a mighty way in their lives. Finally, pray for Christians who are not new to their faith, that the news of Jesus – how He lived, and how He gave His life for us that we may live - would NEVER become old news to us.

May this Lenten season be a time when God would draw you close so that you may bask in His love, His mercy, & His grace.

Stay Connected-Support our Work

Thank you for your generous financial support! You are a blessing to us & the kingdom of God!

- Click "Give Now" on our website www.carlostribes.wordpress.com or send a gift to (write "Carlos Support" on your check):
LCMS World Mission
Missionary Support
PO Box 790089
St. Louis, MO 63179-0089

To receive our "e-newsletter" & prayer updates, email us at carlostribes@gmail.com

Please pray...

- Safe travel as we travel to Ghana to take part in a retreat with LCMS and LBT missionaries – March 3-13
- For stamina & health as we enter the HOT season in Guinea
- That we may be a reflection of Christ to those we encounter
- For our friends & colleagues, the Norton family & Gillard family who have completed their service as career missionaries in Africa. That God may lead & guide them as they pursue ministry opportunities in the United States
- For Raymond & Hannah as they continue their studies

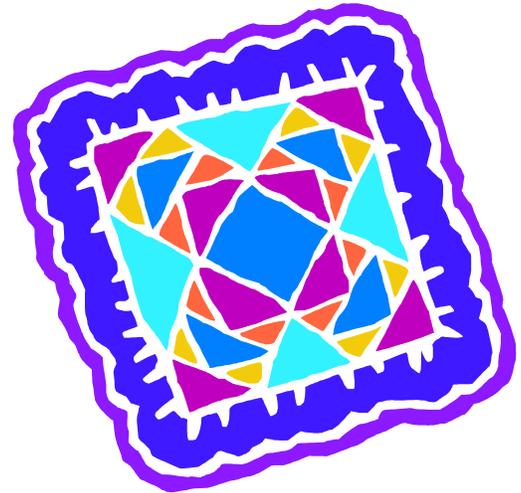


Jack & Cathy Carlos are missionaries to the Maninka people of Guinea, West Africa



LCMS WORLD MISSION
2025 N. GARDEN HIGHWAY
ST. LOUIS, MO 63105

QUILTING GROUP DEDICATION

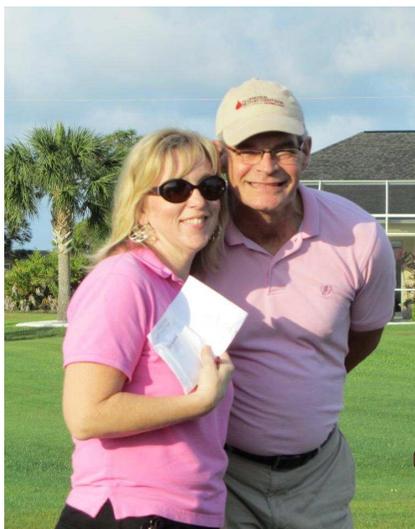


BLOOD DRAW

Have you ever wondered what happens to your blood after it has been donated? Within 24 hours it is shipped to a lab where it is tested for several diseases. It is also tested for cholesterol, blood group and RH type to make sure the donor and patient are compatible. In the lab your blood is separated into RED BLOOD CELLS, PLATELETS AND PLASMA. Platelets last 5 days on the shelf, red blood cells last 42 days refrigerated, and plasma can be kept for 1 year. Most blood drawn today will be cross-matched and used tomorrow. Blood can be shipped to a hospital any day and any hour all year long. There is no substitute for blood. It cannot be manufactured and it can only come from a volunteer donor. Volunteers must weigh at least 102 pounds and be between 16years, with parent's permission and NO upper age limit. If you haven't donated you will be surprised how painless and easy it really is. You are treated like a HERO.

Redeemer's next Blood Drive is April 22, 2012 from 8:30am to 1pm in our parking lot.

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH & CHILD CARE GOLF OUTING!



TALKING WITH YOUR DOCTOR

Make a list of health concerns and questions to take with you to your visit.

Describe symptoms clearly. Say when symptoms began, how they make you feel, what triggers them or makes them stop.

Tell your doctor all over-the-counter medicines, vitamins or herbal supplements you are taking.

Do not be afraid to ask questions or feel embarrassed to discuss all topics.

Don't leave something out because you are worried about taking up too much time.

Be sure that you understand everything before you leave.

Bring a family member or friend with you to take notes and offer support.

Reminder: Daniel Fernandez LMT (licensed massage therapist) will be giving a lecture on April 16, 2012 at 1pm in the fellowship hall. This invitation is open to the congregation and surrounding community.

Submitted by Mary Ann Sochacki L.P.N. Health Care Advocate

LUTHERAN WITNESS SUBSCRIPTIONS

If you are not familiar with the Lutheran Witness magazine, it has undergone some wonderful improvements this past year. Renewed or new subscriptions are now being received. If you would like to renew or begin a subscription, please contact the church office before April 11th. Yearly subscriptions are \$11.00 and all checks should be made out to Redeemer Lutheran Church c/o The Lutheran Witness.

CELL PHONES FOR SOLDIERS

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

ORPHAN GRAIN TRAIN

"I will not leave you as orphans, I will come to you."

John 14:18 A volunteer organization providing humanitarian aid to those in need regardless of color, creed or national origin to show the love of Jesus. This is what the Orphan Grain Train is all about. The pillowcase dresses and boy shorts will go to Haiti via the Orphan Grain Train and be distributed to those in need by our counterpart there. Warm bodies are happy boys as our Quilts are shipped to Haiti, disaster survivors stateside, and students at Concordia Seminary, Ft. Wayne.

Submitted by Vicky Davis





From Redeemer Lutheran Child Care

Bible Lessons

Chapel is on Mondays at
3:45

4/2 The Passion of Christ

Matthew 27:1-2, 11-66

4/9 The Resurrection of Jesus

John 20:1-18

4/16 Jesus appears on the Emmaus road

Luke 24:13-35

4/23 Jesus appears to Thomas

John 20:19-29

4/30 Jesus appears in Galilee

John 21:1-14



Christ died for our sins.

1 Corinthians 15:3

Birthdays

Amanda 4/1

Nicholas 4/7

Rylie 4/7

Rafael 4/18



Closed

April 6, 2012

Good Friday



Welcome to Redeemer Child Care

Olivia, Joshua, Kylee,
Nadir and Gabriella

What We Are Learning

4/2-4/5 Easter

4/9-4/13 Fun and Fantasy

4/16-4/20 Tell Me a Story

4/23-5/4 Creepy Crawlies

GOLF Scramble Fundraiser

Thank you to all who participated in the Golf Scramble and donated Sponsorships. We appreciate your generosity.



Submitted by Wendy Horvath

CLASSIFIEDS

Beautician/Manicurist	Debbie Balogh Linda Pontello	Purple Palace Purple Palace	941-475-0731 941-475-0731
Sales—Rentals	Pineapple Gulf Properties—Glenda McDorman, Owner/Broker (Lessie Kirch's Daughter) 350 S. Indiana Road Englewood, FL 34223. Office: 941-473-0300, Cell: 941-330-7922.		
Handyman	Work any handyman job from A-Z, nothing is too big or small. Please call John Toth at 941-697-1670!		
Cleaning Services	Free estimates! Please contact Sheila Murphy at 941-473-1747.		
Lawn Care	Call Todd Armstrong at 941-961-7584 for your lawn care needs.		
Construction	Call Rob Long! A.C.S., Inc. - Licensed General Contractor - Anything from full remodels, full lanai's, window and door installation and ALL phases of construction. State certified licensed and insured. Please call for a free estimate at 941-475-5008 or 941-232-6606!		
Real Estate	SURF & SAND REALTY - Pat Whipple, Realtor 2350 N. Beach Road, Unit 3B, Englewood 34223. I'd love to help you find your perfect home or sell it, because I really care. Please contact me at (352) 360-5024 or (941) 474-7755!		

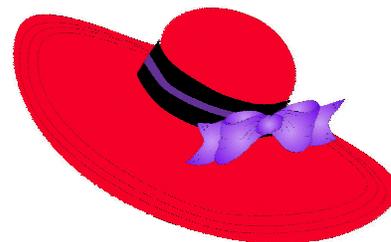
FAITH NIGHT

Friday, April 27th, 2012. The cost of the ticket is \$10.00 each and includes a hat, program, Christian concert, fireworks and silent auction. Children under 2 years old are free if they sit on an adults lap. There is a parking fee so join together and bring a full vehicle. Pastor Kress is throwing out the first pitch. A food drive will be held collecting family-sized canned goods. The person and organization that brings the most (by pounds) will be eligible to win a suite for another game – thanks to the Stone Crabs. Redeemer Lutheran Church has 60 tickets and \$3.00 per ticket goes to Helping Hands. The church will be providing transportation to the event. If you have any questions or would like to purchase a ticket, please contact the church office. THANKYOU!

**REDEEMER RED HATS LUNCHEON**

The next Red Hat Luncheon will be Tuesday, April 24th at 12:00 Noon. A sign-up sheet is located in the narthex. Lunch will be at Beyond the Sea.

See you there!



REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH
6970 Mineola Road
Englewood, FL 34224

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REDEEMER
LUTHERAN CHURCH
6465 Mayport Road
Englewood, FL 34224

REV. JAMES T. KRESS, SR.

REDEEMER REPORTER

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

WORSHIP SERVICES:

October—April: 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM

Sunday School: 9:15 AM

Bible Study: 9:15 AM

CHURCH OFFICE PHONE: 941-475-2410

We, the members of Redeemer Lutheran Church are called into the service of our Lord by accepting His command (Matthew 28:18-20):

- *Making disciples of all nations / peoples.*
- *Baptizing them in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.*
- *Proclaiming the Gospel and teaching the Word.*

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

APRIL

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>1 The Sunday of the Passion w/ Children's Palm Branch Processional</p> <p>8:00 AM Divine Service 9:15 AM Sunday School 9:15 AM Bible Class 10:30 AM Divine Service</p>	<p>2</p> <p>9:00 – 11:00 AM Tap 3:45 PM Child Care Chapel 4:00 PM Weight Watchers 6:00 PM Weight Watchers 6:00 PM School Board</p>	<p>3</p> <p>6:00 PM Elder's Mtg 7:00 PM AA Mtg.</p>	<p>4</p> <p>9:00 – 11:00 AM Tap 10:00 AM Outreach 7:00 PM Choir Practice 7:00 PM Al-Anon Mtg.</p>	<p>5 Maundy Thursday</p> <p>10:00 AM Sr. Fellowship 4:30 PM Divine Service 7:00 PM Divine Service w/ the Stripping of the Altar</p>	<p>6 Good Friday</p> <p>12:00 PM Tre Ore Service (Last 7 Words) 4:30 PM Tenebrae Service (Service of Darkness) 7:00 PM Tenebrae Service (Service of Darkness) <i>CHILD CARE CLOSED</i></p>	<p>7 Holy Saturday</p>
<p>8 The Resurrection of Our Lord</p> <p>8:00 AM Divine Service 9:15 AM EASTER EGG HUNT 10:30 AM Divine Service</p>	<p>9</p> <p>9:00 – 11:00 AM Tap 3:45 PM Child Care Chapel 4:00 PM Weight Watchers 6:00 PM Weight Watchers 7:00 PM Council Meeting</p>	<p>10</p> <p>10:00 AM Bible Class 6:00 PM Christian Education 7:00 PM AA Mtg.</p>	<p>11</p> <p>9:00 – 11:00 AM Tap 7:00 PM Choir Party at Doris Dykhuizen's House 7:00 PM Al-Anon Mtg.</p>	<p>12</p> <p>10:00 AM Sr. Fellowship 10:00 AM Ladies Bible Class 4:00 – 5:30 PM Youth Confirmation Class</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p> <p>8:00 AM - ? Property Appreciation Day</p>
<p>15 The 2nd Sunday of Easter</p> <p>8:00 AM Divine Service 9:15 AM Sunday School 9:15 AM Bible Class 10:30 AM Divine Service NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</p>	<p>16</p> <p>7:00 AM Men's Group 9:00 – 11:00 AM Tap 1:00 PM Health Talk 3:45 PM Child Care Chapel 4:00 PM Weight Watchers 6:00 PM Weight Watchers</p>	<p>17</p> <p>9:00 AM Hula Class 9:00 AM Assimilation 10:00 AM Bible Class 7:00 PM AA Mtg.</p>	<p>18</p> <p>9:00 – 11:00 AM Tap 7:00 PM Al-Anon Mtg.</p>	<p>19</p> <p>10:00 AM Sr. Fellowship 10:00 AM Ladies Bible Class 4:00 – 5:30 PM Youth Confirmation Class 6:30 PM Stephen Ministry</p>	<p>20</p> <p>10:00 AM Moore/Timmins Wedding</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>22 The 3rd Sunday of Easter</p> <p>8:00 AM Divine Service 9:15 AM Sunday School 9:15 AM Voter's Meeting 10:30 AM Divine Service BLOOD DRIVE</p>	<p>23</p> <p>9:00 – 11:00 AM Tap 3:45 PM Child Care Chapel 4:00 PM Weight Watchers 6:00 PM Weight Watchers</p>	<p>24</p> <p>9:00 AM Hula Class 12:00 NOON Red Hat Luncheon 10:00 AM Bible Class 7:00 PM AA Mtg.</p>	<p>25 St. Mark, Evangelist</p> <p>9:00 – 11:00 AM Tap 10:30 AM Human Care 7:00 PM Al-Anon Mtg.</p>	<p>26</p> <p>10:00 AM Sr. Fellowship 10:00 AM Ladies Bible Class 4:00 – 5:30 PM Youth Confirmation Class</p>	<p>27</p> <p>5:30 FAITH NIGHT!!! Bus Leaves for Stone Crabs Baseball Game</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29 The 4th Sunday of Easter</p> <p>8:00 AM Divine Service 9:15 AM Sunday School 9:15 AM Bible Class 10:30 AM Divine Service BLOOD PRESSURE</p>	<p>30</p> <p>9:00 – 11:00 AM Tap 3:45 PM Child Care Chapel 4:00 PM Weight Watchers 6:00 PM Weight Watchers</p>					

Wedding Anniversaries –April 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6 Dick & Betty Clemens (55 Years) Ed & Ginny Doenges (55 Years)	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27 Ron & Ellie Ratzlaff (49 Years)	28
29	30				30	31

Birthdays –April 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Sybil Grahl Mary Citrone	2 Henry Rudolph John Thurow	3	4 Pastor Kress	5 Connie Rieck	6	7 Dick Harris
8 Marilyn Kraft	9 Cecil Grahl	10	11 Aaden Mosser	12 Tricia Hopkins Avis Stuck	13 Erna Abel	14 Angie Ziegler
15 Beth Schaitz	16 Robin Altmann	17 Anne Sanders Jeremy Schaitz Bill Zwick	18	19 Roland Hansen	20 Sharon Grcevic	21 Mayrie Dawson
22 Duane Vance	23 Susan Timmins	24	25	26	27 Robert Vickey	28 Glenn Mossner Rick Vassallo
29 Betty Clemens Linda Rogers	30				30	31