



September 2025

Redeemer Lutheran Church

360.384.5923



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BELLINGHAM, WA 98226
360.384.5923

www.redeemberbellingham.com — Website
office@redeemberbellingham.com — Email

Sunday Worship Service Schedule

9:00 AM: Adult Bible Study

10:30 AM: Worship Service

October Newsletter deadline is
Wednesday, September 24, 2025

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- Poem



From the Pastor's Pen



Why do we do what we do? Over the past several weeks I've had several questions posed to me about the "how and why" of some aspect of our worship time together. Some of them have been questions of a more general nature, while others have been more specific as to why I, as the pastor, do or say some particular thing.

As many of you know, most of my adult Christian life was spent in what may be called standard American Evangelical churches. Those churches were not liturgical. When I first came to Redeemer (some 27 years ago) I was struck by the formality. It was far more liturgical than my Presbyterian upbringing, and quite different from my adult Christian life experience. While I went through a phase of "what this church needs is a little spicing up of its worship style" (and, historically speaking, Redeemer has experimented with that), over the years I have grown to love traditional liturgical worship. Why? Well, for me, the following reasons:

One: it's historical. It's the way the Christian church, worldwide, over the centuries has worshipped. Yes, if you dig into the history of what we call liturgy, there have been gradual changes; with things added and removed; but those were done over long periods of time. Centuries rather than generations. Liturgical services provide stability in an ever-changing world.

Two: it's scriptural. Not scriptural in the sense that you find the liturgy, as we practice it, outlined in the Bible; but scriptural in the sense that it is chocked-full of Scripture! Just check out the Sunday bulletin, or pick up the hymnal, next time you are in church. You will see dozens of reference to the Bible throughout the order of service. There is far more Scripture read, sung or referenced to in a liturgical service than the so-called contemporary service.

Three: it's designed to teach. Many critics of liturgy complain that it's too repetitive. *But repetition is the key to learning!* Didn't most of you learn your times tables by repeating them? You learned your phone number by repeating it. You've learned a lot of things by repeating. By repetition we learn by heart the Creed, the Lord's Prayer, and the rhythm of worship.

Four: it's orderly. The Apostle Paul says that things need to be done in good order, "*for God is not a God of confusion, but of peace*" (1 Cor 14:33). Order is something that many people today who are confronted with endless variety are drawn to and actively seeking. Order gives one an anchor, something stable to grasp and hang on to.

Fifth: it's evangelistic. That's right! Evangelistic. Evangelism is simply the sharing of the Gospel. In the liturgy, the Gospel is all over the place! Whether my sermon hits the nail on the head, or not; in the liturgy you still hear Law and Gospel. And the Gospel is "*the power of God unto salvation*" (Rom 1:16). You don't need to memorize *The Four Spiritual Laws* or *The Bridge* or any other evangelistic tool. Bring your unchurched friends and family to church and they will hear the Gospel. The liturgy points people to Jesus, and pointing people to Jesus is evangelism.

As we move into the Fall season and schedules “return to normal” I hope part of that normal will be spending time together at church, receiving what God has in store for us. We are told that the early church “*devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers*” (Acts 2:42). Some scholars see three things happening in that verse: teaching/preaching; fellowship in breaking bread together; and “the” prayers. Hmmm... kind of sounds like our liturgy, doesn't it?

See you in church...

Pastor Rex E. Watt

LWML Washington–Alaska District Fall Retreat 2025 September 26 - September 28



LWML Washington-Alaska District Retreat

Theme: Calming Life's Storms - Matthew 8:23-27

7 pm Friday, September 26 - Sunday, September 28

Clover Island Inn

435 Clover Island Dr.

Kennewick, Washington 99336

Please contact Wendy McLeod for more information or
visit www.wa-aklwml.com

Redeemer LWML Meeting August 15th





Elder Care List

A - Hah: Doug Bender (Head Elder)
 Hal - McK: Kari Marttila
 McL - Z: Colin Grabish

September Birthdays

09/05 Annette Dixon
 09/05 Cristi Lysne
 09/14 Aurora Blackstock
 09/15 Kendra Anderson
 09/19 Shannon Kimes
 09/20 Abby Anderson
 09/20 Robert Burger

October Birthdays

10/08 Linda Reinikka
 10/10 Darryl Edin
 10/10 Rowan Hogle
 10/12 Connor Dupuis
 10/12 Elsie Werre
 10/13 Les Anderson
 10/31 Deanne Bowen



September Anniversaries

09/06 Dave & Cindy McKay
 09/12 Dale & Carol Kloes

*As the angels sing heavenly praises for our God above,
 As the dawn touches the Earth **with its soft rays,**
As another chapter of your life starts anew,
I wish that God will grant you your heart's greatest desire
And your presence endows peace to others
 as refreshing as the morning dew.
 Have a blessed and wonderful birthday or anniversary!*

Note: If your birthday or wedding anniversary is not listed on this page or if it is incorrect, please contact the church office so we can make the correction.

Fellowship Host/Hostess Volunteer Schedule

Sept. 07 - Tami Marcos & Leslie Rogers
 Sept. 14- Wendy McLeod & Joy Anderson
 Sept. 21 - Cristi Lysne & Mary Ann Olsen
 Sept. 28 - International Potluck

ASSISTING US IN WORSHIP – SEPTEMBER

Altar Care
 Jamie Dupuis

Worship Volunteer Schedule

	Elder/Assistant	Usher	Lay Reader	Soundboard	Counters
Sept. 07	Doug/Colin	Ian McLeod	Ross Abbe	Ian McLeod	Wendy/Corinne
Sept. 14	Doug/Colin	Connor Dupuis	Joe Dupuis	Kari Marttila	Jon/Ron
Sept. 21	Doug/Colin	Anthony McLeod	Corinne Thorsen	Ian McLeod	Anthony/Travis
Sept. 28	Doug/Colin	Rowan Hogle	Connor Dupuis	Kari Marttila	Wendy/Corinne

SEPTEMBER

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	01 Labor Day office closed	02	03 Bulletin Deadline	04 6:30 pm: Elders	05	06 8:00 am: Men's Breakfast & Bible Study
07 9:00 am: Adult Bible Study 10:30 am: Worship /Communion First Day of Sunday School	08	09 6:30 pm: PS Parent Orientation	10 Bulletin Deadline 10am-12pm: PS Open House	11 10am-12pm: PS Open House	12	13
14 9:00 am: Adult Bible Study 10:30 am: Worship /Communion Sunday School	15 First day of Preschool	16 6:30 pm: Council	17 Bulletin Deadline	18	19 11:00 am: LWML Bible Study	20
21 9:00 am: Adult Bible Study 10:30 am: Worship /Communion Sunday School	22	23	24 Bulletin Deadline Saltshaker Deadline 9:00am: Women's Bible Study	25	26	27
28 9:00 am: Adult Bible Study 10:30 am: Worship /Communion Sunday School International Potluck	29	30				



The Bulletin Board

TITHES AND OFFERINGS: *Thank you for your faithful giving!*

DEVOTIONALS: “Our Daily Bread” for September-December and “Portals of Prayer” for July - September are available on the offering table.

SUNDAY ADULT BIBLE STUDY: MEETS AT 9:00 am. A study of Deuteronomy led by Jon Dixon.

MEN’S SATURDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY & BREAKFAST: A Study of Proverbs led by Anthony McLeod. 8:00 am the first Saturday of each month here at the church. **The next meeting will be Saturday, September 6th.**

LWML BIBLE STUDY: The third Friday of each month at 11:00 am. A study of Luther’s Small Catechism. **The next meeting will be on Friday, September 19th.**

WEDNESDAY MORNING LADIES BIBLE STUDY: Wednesday mornings at 9:00 am. This Bible Study is taking a brief break and will start up again on Wednesday, September 24th, led by Lynnata Marttila.

SUNDAY SCHOOL BEGINS ON SEPTEMBER 7TH: Children’s Sunday school is starting on September 7th. The Board of Education is looking for volunteers to share God’s love with our students. **There is a sign-up sheet on the mailbox table.**

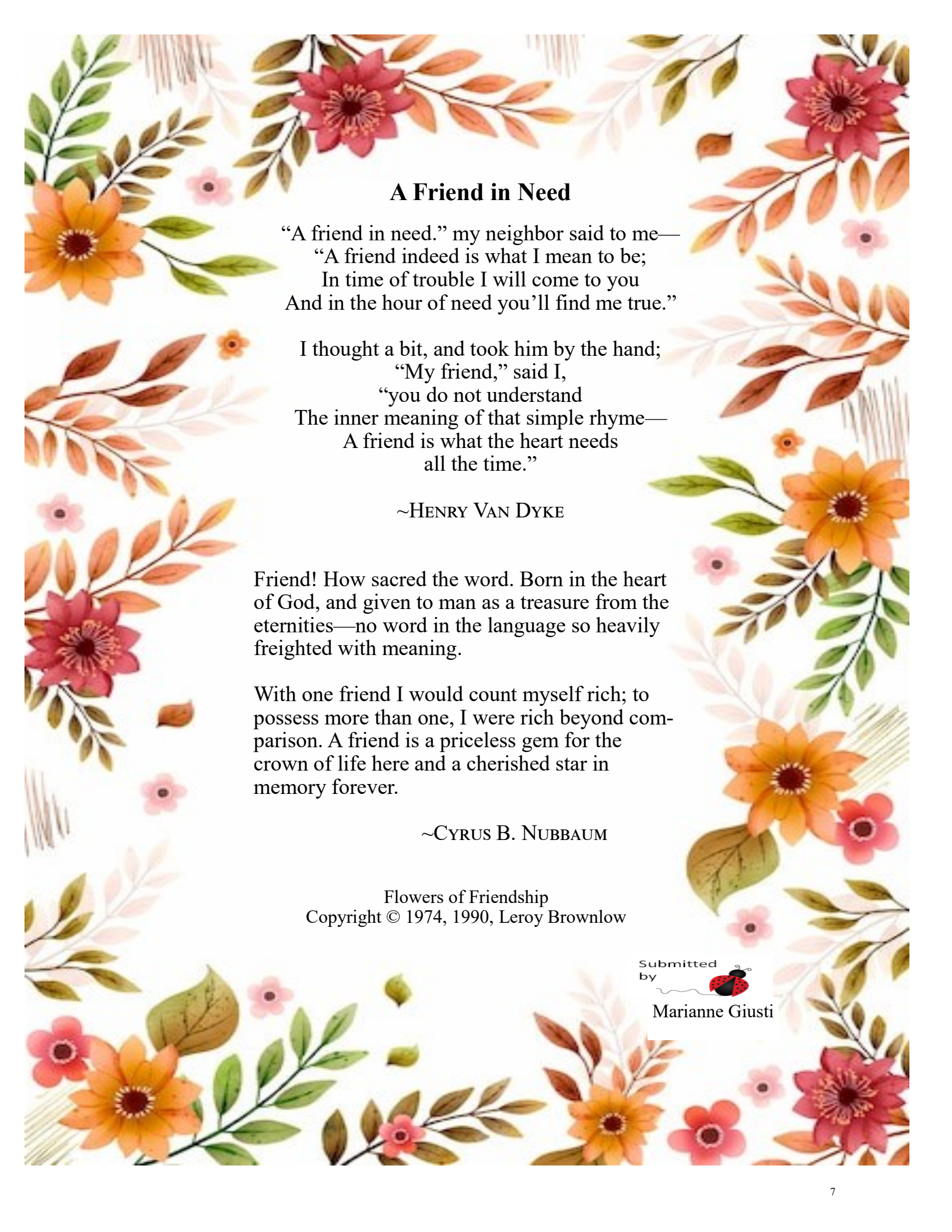
INTERFAITH COALITION COAT DRIVE: It’s already that time of year again!! We will again be collecting coats and cold weather accessories for men, women and children. The collection box is located beneath the military boxes. Please see Wendy McLeod with any questions.

ABC: It’s time to start thinking about our annual ABC– Advent by Candlelight event! If you would be interested in helping to plan/organize this special event, please contact Cristi Lysne.

MILITARY FAMILY THANK YOU: Hi! Thank you for your continued prayers and support of our son Ryan and his wife Julia! ALL of you are such a blessing and we so appreciate each of you and thank the Lord for you! ~Tim and Mary Pitcher

The Lutheran Witness

Starting with the September issue, The Lutheran Witness magazine will no longer be mailed to individual homes. We will have multiple copies here at the church that you may take home to read and then please return to share with others! Thank you!



A Friend in Need

“A friend in need.” my neighbor said to me—
“A friend indeed is what I mean to be;
In time of trouble I will come to you
And in the hour of need you’ll find me true.”

I thought a bit, and took him by the hand;
“My friend,” said I,
“you do not understand
The inner meaning of that simple rhyme—
A friend is what the heart needs
all the time.”

~HENRY VAN DYKE

Friend! How sacred the word. Born in the heart
of God, and given to man as a treasure from the
eternities—no word in the language so heavily
freighted with meaning.

With one friend I would count myself rich; to
possess more than one, I were rich beyond com-
parison. A friend is a priceless gem for the
crown of life here and a cherished star in
memory forever.

~CYRUS B. NUBBAUM

Flowers of Friendship
Copyright © 1974, 1990, Leroy Brownlow

Submitted
by 
Marianne Giusti

BACK TO SCHOOL

WORD SEARCH

FIND AND CIRCLE EACH WORD!



D	E	S	K	P	B	S	U	B
U	O	S	C	H	O	O	L	A
T	E	A	C	H	E	R	O	C
A	U	T	U	M	N	A	A	K
F	U	N	S	O	A	Y	N	P
A	E	N	S	O	L	M	D	A
L	F	A	P	P	L	E	S	C
L	E	A	V	E	S	S	C	K
S	E	P	T	E	M	B	E	R

Fall

September

School

Backpack

Book

Autumn

Desk

Fun

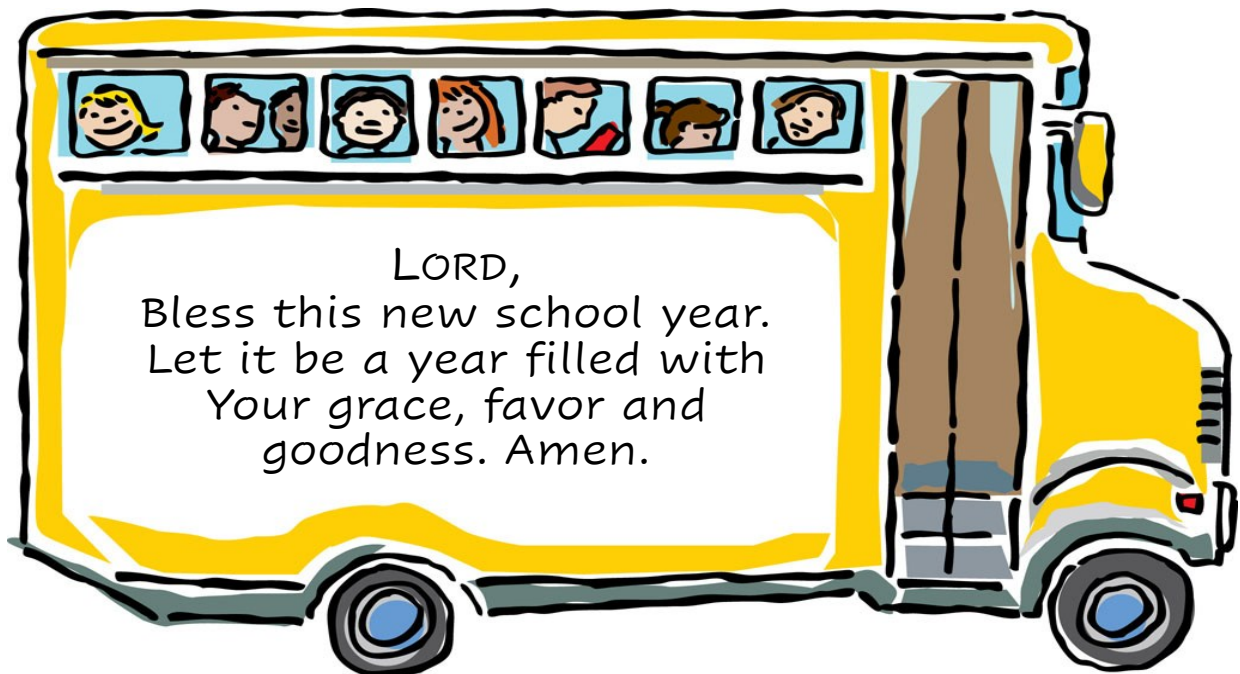
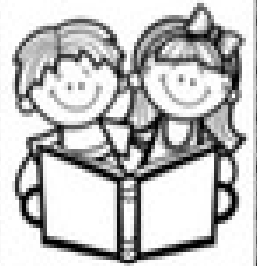
Apples

Bus

Leaves

Teacher

it's
going
to be a
great
school
year!





INTERNATIONAL

SUNDAY POTLUCK

SEPTEMBER 28th

For Redeemer's monthly potluck, you are invited to bring an
"international" food dish to share

OR

a favorite family dish of any tradition or background.

Look for a sign-up to be available mid-September
and you may indicate the dish you will be bringing
and it's background or heritage

(German, Swedish, Filipino, Sudanese, American, Mexican, etc.)

PLEASE JOIN US as we look forward to this time of sharing different
international foods and the joy of fellowship.

Should you have any questions, please contact
Leslie Rogers, Annette Dixon, Wendy McLeod or Tami Marcos



❄️ ❄️ It's time to start thinking about our annual ABC—
Advent by Candlelight event!

If you would be interested in helping to plan/organize
this special event, please contact Cristi Lysne. ❄️ ❄️



Work and Keep

“The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it” (Genesis 2:15).

Genesis chapters one and two are familiar to us. We know them best as the Creation Account. Chapter one is where we hear the familiar, “let there be...and there was” directives. Chapter two gives us the account of Adam (the man) being formed from the “Adamah” (the dust) and becoming a living being when he receives the breath of life in his nostrils. Because of this, it would be quite easy to simply lump these two chapters into the category of creation accounts.

But do not be too hasty in this! While these two chapters do faithfully relate to us the account of creation, they also give us the creation of the “office” of steward. The man, created in the image of God in Genesis 1 and formed from the dust in Genesis 2, is created for a distinct purpose. He is created to be a steward of the perfect and beautiful creation that the Lord has made! In fact, this is THE reason that man was made. He — and we — were created in the image of God to be stewards of God’s creation.

This purpose is spelled out in verse 15 of Genesis 2. The steward has one job, with two purposes. It is fitting that in the month that our nation marks Labor Day, we consider the task of steward. The first purpose of the job of steward is to work. The steward is the caretaker of the Garden. Being a steward is work! Before the fall into sin, this was not an onerous task. But it was an active thing. Imagine being a farmer in the Garden of Eden! Work would be only harvest. No plowing. No planting. No cultivating. No weeding. The perfect garden that the Lord had made would simply produce automatically to provide for man, woman, and all living beings!

But there is a second task in verse fifteen. The word “keep” is not just a synonym for work. This second task is related to defending. This garden, holy by virtue of its being called into existence by a holy God, needed to be defended. Here is where the vocation of steward becomes priestly. The steward was to defend the perfect and holy garden from that which was unholy. Later in the Old Testament, this was the task of the priests in the tabernacle and temple. They were to defend with their lives the Holy of Holies. This too is the labor of stewardship. It is a labor that calls the steward to be willing to put the garden before life!

Stewardship was always work. It only got burdensome after the original steward, Adam, failed to defend the garden from the alien word of the serpent. But this was not a failure of harvest. It was a failure to defend the garden! As a result, all work that followed that failure became burdensome.

The steward failed but was never fired. That is why we have such an issue with stewardship to this day. We continue to live out a pre-fall vocation in a fallen world as failed stewards. That is why we in the church need to be reminded of our vocational call to be stewards. We so easily forget that this world is not ours to do with as we please. Nothing is ours. We are but stewards entrusted with managing the creation for the glory of God and the benefit of the neighbor. It is a daunting task. But it is the one to which we have been called. We cannot do it on our own. Apart from the grace of God shared with us through Jesus, we would be burdened to the point of temporal and eternal death. But the Holy Spirit calls us by the Gospel! This Gospel connects us to the fertile garden of Christ's Work on our behalf. Now we are stewards of that grace! The Holy Spirit works this in and through us today and every day.

This is the work of the church. It is also the work of the individual steward. The Lord has placed us in the "garden" with the same twofold purpose: work and keep! Enjoy your labor. For in the Lord, our labor is never in vain!

**LCMS Stewardship Ministry – lcms.org/stewardship
Newsletter Article – September 2025**

Redeemer Lutheran Preschool

**The first day for of class for the 2025-2026 Preschool year will be on
Monday, September 15th.**

Please keep our teachers, students and all of our preschool families in your prayers as we head into the new school year. Prayers for a safe and successful year for all and that God be glorified in this important ministry in our community.

Looking ahead to the 2025-2026 School Year... **Here are some items on our *Wish List!***

- Sand (bags of sand from Dollar tree or wherever) 24 bags
- Crayola Markers (10 ct.) 10 each
- Crayola Colored Pencils (12 ct.) 10 each
- Cans of Play-doh assorted colors - 24
- Clorox wipes (Costco packs)
- Dollar Tree gift cards
- Michaels gift cards
- Hobby Lobby gift cards





Lutheran's For Life Quotes: September 07

"Difficult situations like surprise pregnancy and terminal diagnosis can tempt us to forget our Savior's presence and power. Comfort comes not from making deals with death but from the gifts He wrings and the privileges He brings even in and through hardship. An everlasting, unchanging, and all-sufficient Creator and Keeper not only provides life, He protects it as well!"

Pastor Michael Salemink, Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org

Stay connected to the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

IF YOU WANT HELP UNDERSTANDING the world from a Lutheran perspective:

The Lutheran Witness (lcms.org/witness)

IF YOU LIKE HEARING directly from the president and other members of the president's office: Witness, Mercy, Life Together blog (wmltblog.org)

IF YOU WANT TO CONNECT with other LCMS Lutherans: LCMS Facebook (facebook.com/thelcms), Twitter (@thelcms), Instagram (thelcms) and Periscope.

IF YOU WANT TO HEAR from LCMS leadership: Leader blog (blogs.lcms.org, category/leader-blog)

IF YOU'RE SEARCHING for stories of the Church in action:

Lutherans Engage the World (lcms.org/lutheransengage)

IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR NEWS: *Reporter* (blogs.lcms.org/reporter)

IF YOU CAN'T GET ENOUGH of all things mission:

Journal of Lutheran Mission (lcms.org/journaloflutheranmission)

IF YOU WANT IT ALL: LCMS News and Publications (blogs.lcms.org)



Free Cards



SHARE GOD'S WORD BY USING FREE GIDEON CARDS

How would you like to extend the missionary outreach of our church to some 200 countries around the world? You are encouraged to use Gideon cards to send the Word and Change a Life!

Every time you send a Gideon card, your donation for Bibles will send God's Word to someone who desperately needs it—perhaps in your own neighborhood or somewhere else around the world.

Gideon cards can be given in the memory of someone special (sympathy cards) or for any special occasion, and that's a life-changing difference!

Check out the display of free Gideon cards in our church. Where are they? They are on the wooden shelf at the back wall in the fellowship room. Help yourself. Then, let these cards acknowledge your gift in memory or in honor of someone, and provide Bibles, helping fulfill the Great Commission. Thank you for sharing God's Word around the world.