



September 2023

Redeemer Lutheran Church

360.384.5923



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360.384.5923

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Sunday Worship Service Schedule

9:00 AM: Adult Bible Study

10:30 AM: Worship Service

October Newsletter deadline is
Wednesday, September 20, 2023

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From the Pastor's Pen



Every now and then, I get asked, “Pastor, what’s a good Bible reading plan?” I kind of relate it to a similar question, “What’s the best Bible version?” My answer to that question is, “The one you will read!”

There are a gazillion Bible reading plans out there! There are one-year plans (which I was taught in my Navigator days), two-year plans, chronological plans, devotional plans, focused reading plans, and many more. If you’ve never been in the habit of reading your Bible on a regular basis, start small. Try one chapter a day. If you read one chapter a day in your Bible, you can get through the entire Bible in a little over 3 years! (Three years and 3 months to be exact). What’s the best Bible reading plan? The one you will do!

Where should you start reading? Genesis is always a good place to start. In it, God tells us where we came from, what happened to his perfect creation, and how he begins to bring about restoration. If you want to begin at the beginning and then “read through to the end” just be aware that there are some Old Testament books that will challenge your attention span (like Numbers and Leviticus). Maybe after reading Genesis, move to one of the Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, or John) to learn more about Jesus. Psalms are always a good choice. In them you read the prayers of God’s people, the words of the hymns that God’s people sang, and get a glimpse of the struggles and joys of their hearts. One simple reading plan is to alternate back and forth from an Old Testament book to a New Testament book, and back again.

The Apostle Paul tells us that *“All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right. God uses it to prepare and equip his people to do every good work”* (2 Tim 3:16-17, NLT). He also wrote, *“For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through the endurance taught in the Scriptures and the encouragement they provide we might have hope”* (Rom 15:4, NIV). God left us his Word to give us life and hope. As you read it, look for the true hope that God gives in his Son, Jesus the Christ. The Apostle John told those early Christians, and also tells us, *“Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name”* (Jn 20:30-31). This is the ultimate purpose of Scripture; that we may come to believe, and by believing, have life.

As you read, you will encounter texts that trouble or confuse you. Don’t let that discourage you. Keep reading and keep looking for that hope and life that God gives. And to supplement your reading, come to church where you will not only hear it read, but explained by God’s grace.

See you in church,

Pastor Rex Watt



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					01 2-4pm: Chime Choir Practice	02
03 9:00 am: Adult Bible Study 10:30 am: Worship /Communion	04 Labor Day Office closed	05 6:30 pm: Elders	06 Bulletin Deadline 6:30-8:00 pm Adult Instruction Class	07	08 2-4pm: Chime Choir Practice	09 2:00 pm: Game Day
10 9:00 am: Adult Bible Study 10:30 am: Worship /Communion 1st Day of Sunday School Playground Dedication	11 6:30 pm: PS Parent Orientation	12 10 am-12 pm: PS Open House 6:30 pm: Council	13 Bulletin Deadline 1st Day MWF PS Class 6:30-8:00 pm Adult Instruction Class	14 1st Day T/Th PS Class	15 RLWML Meeting: 11:30-1:00 pm 2-4pm: Chime Choir Practice	16
17 9:00 am: Adult Bible Study 10:30 am: Worship /Communion Sunday School SMP Presentation	18	19	20 Bulletin Deadline Saltshaker Deadline	21 Evangelism Meeting 1:30 & 7 pm	22 2-4pm: Chime Choir Practice	23
24 9:00 am: Adult Bible Study 10:30 am: Worship /Communion Sunday School	25	26	27 Bulletin Deadline	28	29	30



Elder Care List

A - Hal: Doug Bender
 Hal - Mc: Rod Hanson (Head Elder)
 Mo - Z: Colin Grabish

August 2023 Budget vs. Offerings

	Monthly	Year to Date
Budget	\$17,636.00	\$145,497.00
Offerings	\$14,500.00	\$123,307.00



September Anniversaries

09/01 Glen & Cheryl Kortlever
 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. 03 - Dave & Cindy McKay
 Sept. 10 - Dee Watt & Heidi Kuljis
 Playground Dedication
 Sept. 17 - Sandy Stamps & Dee Watt
 Sept. 24 - Potluck

ASSISTING US IN WORSHIP – SEPTEMBER

Altar Care

Carl & Mary Ann Olsen

Worship Volunteer Schedule

	Elder/Assistant	Usher	Lay Reader	Soundboard	Counters
Sept. 03	Rod Hanson	Ian McLeod	Lynnata Marttila	Kari Marttila	Cheryl/Ron
Sept. 10	Rod Hanson	Connor Dupuis	Carol Kloes	Anthony McLeod	Anthony/Bill
Sept. 17	Rod Hanson	David Stamps	Ross Abbe	Colin Grabish	Corinne/Spiro
Sept. 24	Rod Hanson	Anthony McLeod	Corinne Thorsen	Kari Marttila	Cheryl/Ron

The Bulletin Board

SUNDAY ADULT BIBLE STUDY MEETS AT 9:00 am: "Liturgy: Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow"

ADULT INSTRUCTION CLASS: Wednesday evenings from 6:30-8:00 pm

EVANGELISM MEETING: The next scheduled Evangelism Meetings will be Thursday, September 21st, at 1:30 & 7pm.

RLWML: The next scheduled meeting will be Friday, September 15th, at 11:30am.

UKRAINE NEED: Sunday, September 3rd, will be the last day to bring in donations of t-shirts and sweatpants for Ukrainian Hospitals. Thank you all for your donations!

SMP PRESENTATION: During fellowship time following the service on **Sunday, September 17th**, Pastor Watt and Pastor Wildermuth will be presenting information about the Specific Ministry Pastor (SMP) Program. This is the program that Pastor Watt has recently completed.

COUNTERS: We are in need of counters to count the offering on Sunday mornings. This is done in pairs and on a rotation that works out to about one Sunday a month, if we have enough counters! Please contact the church office if you are interested.

ABC: Save the date, **December 3rd**, for **Advent By Candlelight**. Opportunity to serve...contact Cristi Lysne or Dee Watt.



GAME DAY!

Bring your favorite board games and enjoy an afternoon of games! **Saturday, September 9th at 2:00 pm.** Bring your favorite snack as well, if you would like. There is a sign-up sheet near the kitchen.

See Annette Dixon with any questions.

INTERFAITH COAT DRIVE

As warm as it has been, it's hard to believe that it's time to start the Interfaith Coat Drive again. In addition to a need for new and 'gently used' coats; hats, scarves, gloves, socks (for men, women and children) and blankets have also been requested.

The drop-off box is located behind the entry-door to the sanctuary (next to the table often used for desserts during Fellowship).

Donations will be accepted now through the end of October.

We had such a good response last year from the congregation to this request, I am looking forward to the bounty God provides for those in need in this year's request! Thank you for your participation.

If you have any questions, please contact Cheryl Kortlever.



Stewardship in the First Commandment

The greatest gift that Martin Luther gave to us was his Small Catechism. The word “enchiridion” is part of the original title of this work. This is the Greek word for “handbook.” The Small Catechism is a handbook of the Bible. All the basic knowledge that a Christian needs to understand the faith and live a godly life has been taken from the Bible and distilled into this beautiful little book of Christian piety.

Luther starts with the Ten Commandments.

The First Commandment:

You shall have no other gods.

What does this mean? We should fear, love, and trust in God above all things. (SC I)

We have a God above us. He is the Lord God and we are not. He is Almighty and in control. He is righteous and good. And therefore, we should fear Him.

This God is also our heavenly Father. He wants us to be saved. He does not want us to suffer His just wrath. He has provided salvation for us in His Son, Jesus Christ. And therefore, we should love Him.

Our heavenly Father will never leave us nor forsake us. He has promised as much — and the Bible shows us that He always keeps His promises. So, we should trust Him.

In the Large Catechism, Luther explains how money and possessions form one of the greatest temptations against the First Commandment:

This I must unfold somewhat more plainly, that it may be understood and perceived by ordinary examples of the contrary. Many a one thinks that he has God and everything in abundance when he has money and possessions; he trusts in them and boasts of them with such firmness and assurance as to care for no one. Lo, such a man also has a god, Mammon by name, i.e., money and possessions, on which he sets all his heart, and which is also the most common idol on earth. He who has money and possessions feels secure, and is joyful and undismayed as though he were sitting in the midst of Paradise. On the other hand, he who has none doubts and is despondent, as though he knew of no God. For very few are to be found who are of good cheer, and who neither mourn nor complain if they have not Mammon. This [care and desire for money] sticks and clings to our nature, even to the grave.

(LC I 5–9)

These words of Dr. Luther should call us to repentance; sometimes, we live and act like we don't have a Father in heaven. We seek our comfort and peace outside of His gracious promises. But we do have a Father in heaven. He does love us. All His promises are true. And the Lord will surely provide. If that is our belief, then our outward lives will reflect our belief in our acts of generosity and mercy. We will see money and possessions not as gods but rather as tools for doing God's work.

**LCMS Stewardship Ministry – lcms.org/stewardship
Newsletter Article – September 2023**



The LWML Aug. 18 meeting was productive with evolving plans to provide support for Redeemer ministry, as well as fellowship for our Redeemer family. Watch for announcements in the Salt-shaker and Sunday bulletin.

Bible study is starting at the LWML Sept. 15 meeting!!

Jeanette Stroming has agreed to lead us in Bible study using lessons printed in the Missouri Synod Lutheran Women's magazine for now. Bible study will be held at our monthly LWML meetings beginning next month, in Sept., from 11:00-11:30 A.M. we will then follow our normal schedule with lunch from 11:30-12:00 and the business meeting from 12:00-1:00 P.M. please plan to attend and partake of food for the spirit and body, enjoying Christian fellowship.

Your Mites at work in Missions, internationally, nationally and in our own WA-Alaska District. This month's focus is Redeeming Life Outreach Ministries - \$100,000 Mission Grant. Redeeming Life currently operates maternity and transitional homes in Central Florida for single pregnant women who are homeless, abused, and/or at risk of abortion. It is a proven model. This grant will help Redeeming Life support a called deaconess to serve in a new location in the Chicago-land area. Additionally the funds will help offset the costs during the first two years of operating a safe and stable home (rent, utilities, food) and provide program services for the women to be served. Redeeming Life's goal is for their residents to learn to live independently and offers many opportunities for the women to understand that, in Christ, there is forgiveness, peace, and unconditional love.

Results in the Sanford, FL home are babies and mothers are being baptized and confirmed in the faith while also meeting their needs for food, shelter, education and basic life skills. Vision for this grant is to expand maternity homes into every district of Lutheran Missouri Synod.



August 16th 2023 Council Briefs

Meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m.

Pastor opened in prayer.

Pastor presented a devotional from First Kings 19:18.

July 2023 Council meeting minutes were reviewed and accepted.

Treasurer's Report: There is a deficit (projected contributions vs actual) grew to \$18,673.33 due to the decline in contributions. Continued discussion on reducing the number of “fund accounts” the church has set up in QuickBooks to simplify monthly accounting. Council members to return next month with their idea of what accounts to keep and why. Won't affect how projects are paid for etc...we just have more than we need making accounting more time consuming than needed.

Pastor's Report: Adult Bible classes continue, “Pizza with Pastor” continuing to meet monthly studying Revelation. Six pastoral visits made and one funeral service conducted. Confirmands were examined and confirmed.

Elder's Report: Elders discussed the possibility of starting a mentoring program for future elder nominations. The leadership retreat has been finalized for September 30 at the Lynden Library from 9 am – 2 pm. Pastor requested to attend “Ministry Applied Practices West Coast” sponsored by the Northwest District of LCMS. Expenses paid for by District all that is required is a \$500.00 good faith commitment from Redeemer for each year. Council approved this request.

Stewardship Report: A congregant would like to explore the idea for an Oktoberfest next year. A Game Day is in the works for the afternoon of September 9th, details to come.

Property Report: A check was received for \$2,200 to pay for the new rock in front of classrooms from a church member. Hinges for the women's bathroom will be replaced soon.

Education Report: Preschool registration 22 total. Classes start after Labor Day.

Preschool playground should be complete by October. Additional play items are ordered and scheduled to arrive end of August.

Gate has been moved to allow access to the west field.

Memorial bench has arrived and will be assembled and placed before the Sunday school picnic/ 5th Sunday potluck in August.

A metal security door with push bar and window is requested for the south preschool door. Requests for estimates pending- Builder's Alliance and Lynden Door.

Christmas program to be presented by Sunday school students on Christmas Eve church service it will include Sunday School students, graduated confirmands and the congregation.

Evangelism report: Congregational families with young children continue to receive the Focus on the Family Magazine. This Thursday's evangelism meeting will include the movie “Jesus knew you before you were born” at 1:30 and 7:00.

Unfinished Business: In April 2021, when Baker Septic did maintenance on the septic system it was noted there was a broken baffling pipe, which could not be fixed until the old playground wood structure is

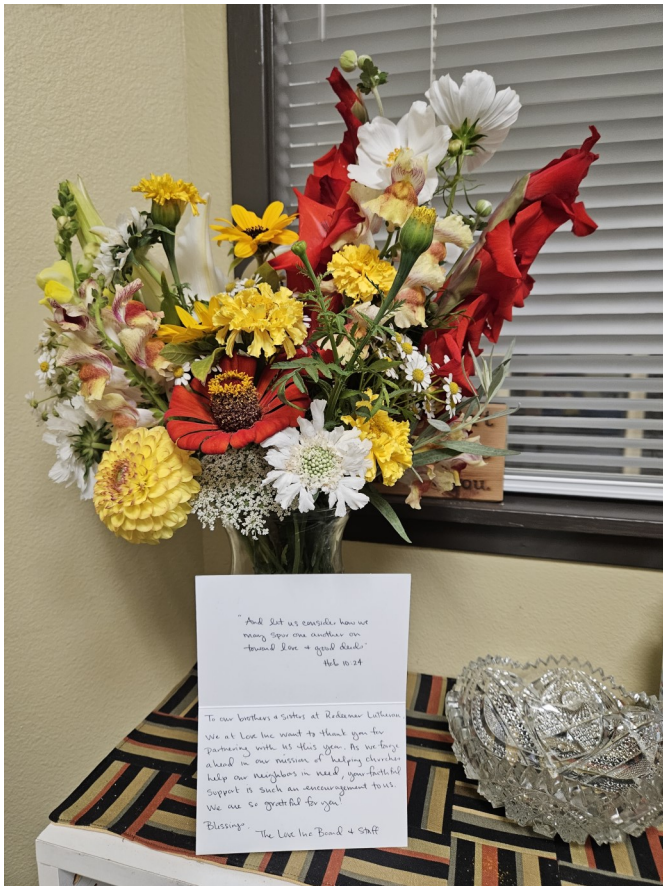
removed. Bid was \$868.00 in 2021. Baker Septic will be contacted to rebid the repair since the old wood structure has been removed.

New Business: Tony McLeod has accepted a nomination to the Elder Board. If approved then he will step down as property chairman as another congregant is thinking of accepting nomination to Property Chair.

Pastor closed in prayer at 8:20.



Thank you Dennis and Sue Urbanec
for generously sharing your garden
harvest with us each week.
We are blessed!!



A THANK YOU FROM LOVE INC.

Love Inc. delivered a very nice flower arrangement and card thanking the Redeemer family for supporting them in their mission of **“helping churches help our neighbors in need”**. They are very grateful for our support!

*“And let us consider how
we may spur one another
on toward love and good
deeds.”*

Hebrews 10:24

Redeemer Lutheran Preschool



Wow! I cannot believe that September is here and preschool is about to start again for another year! As each year goes by I feel like it goes faster and faster! I really am not ready for summer to end and the rain and falling of leaves to start! I usually love the change of seasons and am ready for fall smelling candles, crockpot meals, some rain and football but this year I'm really not there yet!

This year preschool starts the week of September 11th with parent orientation night, meet and greet day and then first day of school for both classes! We currently have 17 children in the M/W/F PRE-K class and 8 in our T/Th preschool class. I know once the students get there I will be excited to start the year! I truly love teaching preschool and this age group! I look forward to seeing the returning students and getting to know all the new students and their families! Each one always holds a special place in my heart!

Over the summer we did have a preschool family that volunteered to take down the old play set! They took everything away and with the help of church members we got the playground area all nice and clean! Honestly, it was a blessing that the old play set came down as much of the wood was rotten! Our new playset is awesome and we will be adding a teeter totter and two bouncy bugs out there! We plan to have a special dedication of the new playset on Sunday, September 10th following the regular Sunday service with a special lunch and goodies to follow!

Thank you to those of you who have contributed supplies for our new school year! They are so much appreciated! Thank you to Dave and Cindy for all your work with the new playset! Thank you to Rod for building us another set of cubbies! Thank you all for your prayers and support throughout our school year! I appreciate all the giving hearts and loving support you all give to our preschool program at Redeemer!

Love and Blessings,

Heidi



Wish List



Wish List for the 2023-2024 Preschool Year

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Crayola markers - 10 count (20 boxes)• clear storage bins - 6 qt. (8) 16 qt. (12)• storage bins 18 gallon - any color (6)• play toaster• play cell phones• play cash register• Ziploc bags (snack size) | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Do-A-Dot Art Sponge Applicators (2 boxes) <p>Gift Cards</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dollar Tree• Hobby Lobby• Michael's |
|---|--|



REDEEMER RAVINGS!

Redeemer Ravings! continues to highlight various people and groups faithfully serving our Lord at Redeemer as a way for us to continue to learn more about each other! This month, we are 'raving' about our recent confirmands! Tune in next month for our exciting new **Redeemer Ravings!**

Meet our recent Confirmands



In July, Redeemer confirmed four young people. For those who may not remember, confirmation is the public affirmation of baptism and faith and follows a period of instruction. In this case, that period of instruction was different for each confirmand but they were all ready to affirm their baptism and faith, as witnessed by their church family at Redeemer during our Sunday service. Each confirmand received a framed certificate of Confirmation as well as a study bible, and was invited to have friends and family join them for a reception with the congregation after the service.

In the picture above of the Confirmands, from left to right, are Reece Kuljis, Adalyn Noste, Matilda Kimes, and Jaxon Kuljis. We asked each of the Confirmands to share with us some of their favorite things, where they would like to be in 10 years, and what they would like to do in the future.

Some of Jaxon's favorite things include playing with Xbox and fishing. In 10 years, he would like to be living at his home with his parents and would love to fish on a boat for bass!

Adalyn's hobbies include painting, running, basketball, reading and hiking. In 10 years she would like to be in college studying to become a pediatrician and playing basketball for UW.

Matilda enjoys studying. In 10 years, she would like to live in Bellingham and work in computer science.

Some of Reece's favorite things include playing with Xbox, football, and baseball. In 10 years, he would like to be at college somewhere playing baseball or football!

We celebrate the commitment each of our Confirmands has shown in building their relationship with our Lord and look forward to witnessing their continued growth in their faith. If you would like to learn more about confirmation, please contact Pastor.




Happenings at Redeemer

Many “behind the scenes” happenings recently at Redeemer!

- Tony and Rod making repairs in the ladies restroom. Thank you!
- Rod making more cubbies for the pre-schoolers. Praise that we have the need for more cubbies as we have many children starting preschool this fall!
- A “facelift” for the flowerbed in front of the church. Thank you Kari and Lynnata, it looks great!





Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and not be afraid: For the Lord Jehovah is my strength and my song; He also is become my salvation.
~**Isaiah 12:2**

Why are ye so fearful? How is it that ye have no faith? ~**Mark 4:40**

Still heavy is thy heart?
Still sink thy spirits down?
Cast off the weight, let fear depart,
And every care be gone.
P. Gerhardt

Go on in all simplicity; do not be so anxious to win a quiet mind, and it will be all the quieter. Do not examine so closely the progress of your soul. Do not crave so much to be perfect, but let your spiritual life be formed by your duties, and by the actions which are called forth by circumstances. Do not take overmuch thought for tomorrow. God, who has led you safely on so far, will lead you on to the end. Be altogether at rest in the loving holy confidence which you ought to have in His heavenly Providence.

St. Francis De Sales

We kneel how weak, we rise how full of power.
Why therefore should we do ourselves this wrong,
Or others—that we are not always strong,
That we are ever overborne with care,
That we should ever weak of heartless be,
Anxious or troubled, when with us is prayer,
And joy and strength and courage are with Thee?
R.C. Trench

Submitted
by 

Marianne Giusti

-from Daily Strengths for Daily Needs
Mary W. Tileston



Lutheran's For Life Quote: September 10

"There is no more valuable work for God and for all of Christendom than bringing up your children in the faith and trust of Jesus! It's not hard to believe that if this were our primary aim, that our children would not question their gender, that they would respect their neighbor and love their spouses, that they would welcome the opportunity to serve the public with politics that reflect solid biblical values, and that they would continue to attend church well after confirmation!"

Rev. Jeff Duncan, Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • eransforlife.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.