



The Saltshaker

May 2023

Redeemer Lutheran Church

360.384.5923



858 WEST SMITH ROAD
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

June Newsletter deadline is
Friday, May 19, 2023

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From the Pastor's Pen



It's Spring...

Have you ever felt like you were the person in the cartoon with the rain cloud over their head? Wherever you go, the rain cloud follows? You are the only one getting wet, and everyone else is dry? Some people see their Christian life that way. They look at the rain clouds in their lives, and the supposed sunshine in the lives of others, and wonder if God is good.

It may seem like God plays favorites. It may feel like God is good to some people, but right now he's skipping over you. If you if you think that's how God works, you need to turn from looking at yourself, and into your own feelings, and see how God works: both in nature, and his Word.

Look outside. It's Spring! God does not play favorites with rain or sunshine. God *"makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust"* (Mt 5:45). When it rains, everyone gets rain. And when the sun shines, everyone gets sunshine. The Bible also says, *"The Lord is good to all; he has compassion on all he has made"* (Psa 145:9).

Just like God sends rain and sunshine on all people, those who believe in him and those who do not; he sent his Son, our Lord Jesus Christ for everyone. It doesn't matter whether the person believes in Jesus or not, God still sent him for their salvation.

Look outside again. Whether you believe it or not, Spring has come. The sunshine and rain tell us that God is good. Whether you believe it or not, God cares for you, loves you, sent his Son for you. Jesus' life, death, resurrection, and ascension tell us that God is good. That's what God's Word tells us. Believe it. Then through faith, you will learn that no matter what rain clouds come your way, God's Son, your Lord Jesus Christ will still shine in your life.

See you in church,

Pastor Rex E. Watt





SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	01	02	03 PS Chapel	04 PS Chapel	05 2-4pm: Chime Choir Practice	06
07 9:00 am: Adult Bible Study 10:30 am: Worship /Communion/ Sunday School	08	09 6:30 pm: Elders	10 Bulletin Deadline PS Chapel 11:30 am PS Mother's Day Luncheon	11 PS Chapel 11:30 am PS Mother's Day Luncheon	12 2-4pm: Chime Choir Practice	13
14 9:00 am: Adult Bible Study 10:30 am: Worship /Communion/ Sunday School Mother's Day Brunch	15	16 6:30 pm: Council	17 Bulletin Deadline 6:00 pm Bible Study	18 T/Th Preschool Class Last Day/Bike Day Evangelism Meeting 1:30 & 7 pm	19 RLWML Meeting: 11:30-1:00 pm 2-4pm: Chime Choir Practice	20
21 9:00 am: Adult Bible Study 10:30 am: Worship /Communion/ Sunday School	22	23	24 Bulletin Deadline M/W/F Preschool Class Last Day/Bike Day 6:00 pm Bible Study 7:00 pm PS Graduation	25	26 Saltshaker Deadline 2-4pm: Chime Chime Practice	27
28 9:00 am: Adult Bible Study 10:30 am: Worship /Communion/ Sunday School	29 Memorial Day	30	31 Bulletin Deadline 6:00 pm Bible Study			
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Elder Care List

A - Ga: (vacant)
 Gi - Hog: (vacant)
 Hov - Ma: Rod Hanson (Head Elder)
 Mc - Sch: Colin Grabish
 Sm - Z: Patrick O'Connor

May Birthdays

05/02 Gail Pappacostas
 05/04 Sherrie Hind
 05/04 Landon VanBerkum
 05/09 Ian McLeod
 05/16 Molly Marttila
 05/24 Jeanette Stroming
 05/25 Ronald Willand
 05/25 Jamie Dupuis
 05/31 Sandra Stamps

June Birthdays

06/02 Rodney Hanson
 06/04 Corinne Thorsen
 06/10 Patrick O'Connor
 06/12 Alex Strong
 06/13 Carson Wright
 06/17 Janet Baeder
 06/17 Steven Potvin
 06/19 Carl Olsen
 06/28 Barb Abbe
 06/28 Rachel Hahn

*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

May 07 - Marianne Giusti & Colin Grabish
 May 14 - Mother's Day Brunch - Elders
 May 21 - Susanne Martinsen & Colin Grabish
 May 28 - Cheryl Kortlever & Jamie Dupuis

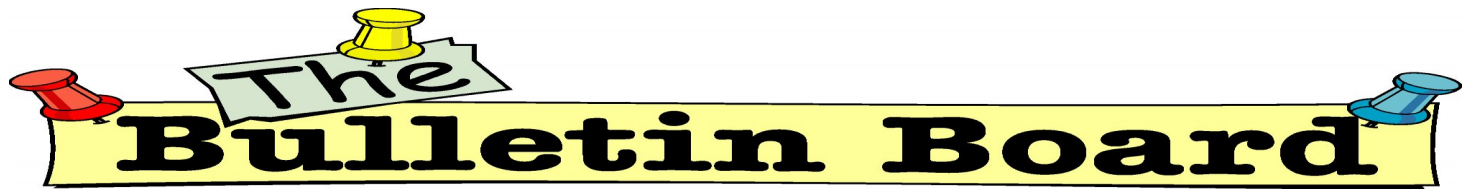
ASSISTING US IN WORSHIP – MAY

Altar Care

Lynnata Marttila

Worship Volunteer Schedule

	Elder/Assistant	Usher	Lay Reader	Soundboard	Counters
May 07	Rod Hanson	Connor Dupuis	Joe Dupuis	Anthony McLeod	Corinne/Spiro
May 14	Rod Hanson	Rowan Hogle	Pastor Watt	Colin Grabish	Anthony/Bill
May 21	Rod Hanson	Anthony McLeod	Corinne Thorsen	Kari Marttila	Cheryl/Ron
May 28	Rod Hanson	David Stamps	Ross Abbe	Anthony McLeod	Corinne/Spiro



The Bulletin Board

TITHE ENVELOPES — Thank you for your continued tithe offerings. Just a reminder to write out **Redeemer Lutheran Church** on your check. Thank you.

SUNDAY ADULT BIBLE STUDY MEETS AT 9:00 am: "Exploring God's Word—The New Testament"

WEDNESDAY NIGHT ADULT BIBLE STUDY AT 6:00 PM: led by Colin Grabish.

TUNE INTO THE LUTHERAN HOUR: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler, Lutheran Hour Speaker, gives a sermon each Sunday. The program also features hymns and reflections on the texts.

Online: www.kfuo.org Radio: 550AM KARI 11:30 am

MOTHERS DAY BRUNCH: Following the service Sunday, May 14th, hosted by the Elders.

RLWML: The next scheduled meeting will be Friday, May 19th, at 11:30am.

EVANGELISM MEETING: The next scheduled Evangelism Meetings will be Thursday, May 18th, at 1:30 & 7pm.

LCMS GIVING OPPORTUNITY: The **2023 LCMS National Offering** will support the translation and production of meaningful Lutheran resources in languages other than English. If you would like to contribute, cash and checks (made payable to Redeemer Lutheran Church) will be accepted through July 16th. Please mark your offering for "LCMS National Offering". Offerings will be delivered to the LCMS Synod Convention, July 29-August 03, by our delegates.

AIR CONDITIONING UNIT NEEDED! We have a church member in need of a portable air conditioning unit. If you have a portable air conditioning unit you are no longer using that you would be willing to donate or sell, please contact the church office.



Vacation Bible School

Now is the time to start thinking about summer and Vacation Bible School!

As we consider how and when to share VBS with the local children, it is important to know if we have enough volunteers to present a program at all. All types of volunteers are needed- playground supervision, snacks and kitchen, teachers, music and crafts. A curriculum and date have not been set (the first week of July was suggested) but we need to know if we have enough volunteers to go forward.

If you would be interested in helping with this meaningful outreach, please contact Marsha Edin (360-220-5040) or Cindy McKay (360-961-7710).



REDEEMER RAVINGS!



Welcome to a new addition to the Saltshaker, Redeemer Ravings! The dictionary defines “Raving” as “writing with extreme enthusiasm and admiration.” The purpose of our new Redeemer Ravings! section of the Saltshaker is to highlight various people and groups faithfully serving our Lord at Redeemer. Each month, we will highlight a different group and include their picture as a way for us to learn more about each other! This month, we are ‘raving’ about our Choir at Redeemer! Tune in next month for our exciting new Redeemer Ravings!



The Redeemer Choir shares their beautiful music with us during worship services. We thank the Lord for their dedication to giving Him glory in our worship with special music. Members of the Redeemer Choir also regularly share solos, duets, and trios when the entire choir does not sing.

In the picture above, Dee Watt is seated at the piano. Behind her, from left to right, are Heidi Kuljis, Erin Black, Corrine Thorsen, Ross Abbe, Wendy McLeod, and Ron Willand. We asked each of the Choir members to provide a couple of fun facts about themselves to share with our Redeemer family.

Dee Watt: Dee is the Redeemer Organist and Music Director. Her parents donated the property on which Redeemer Lutheran Church is built- such a blessing for all of us in the Redeemer family! Dee also enjoys watching football!

Heidi Kuljis: You may recognize Heidi as the pre-school teacher at Redeemer, but did you know that she also loves to cook, bake, and clean?! Heidi’s favorite place is the beach! On rocky beaches, she loves to look for agates!

Erin Black: Erin has enjoyed some unusual experiences. She was once an extra in the movie “Four Minute Mile!” She has also been for a ride in a hot air balloon!

Corrine Thorsen: Corinne is learning to garden. She also enjoys cooking, reading, and spending time with her family and friends!

Ross Abbe: Ross is from “The Tall Corn State,” otherwise known as Iowa! We sure are happy he found his way to Washington! Ross loves people and has the biggest smile for everyone!

Wendy McLeod: Wendy played the accordion as a child! She loves gardening whenever she can and she enjoys axe throwing! Wendy has also taken a class on how to blow glass!

Ron Willand: Ron enjoys woodworking. He also loves to feed and watch the 14-16 deer that visit his home every day!

We thank each of our choir members for serving our Lord and blessing the Redeemer community with their voices. If you like to sing, please consider joining the Redeemer Choir! They practice on Sundays after the service. Or, just stop by and say Hi!



R L W M L



First, I would like to thank all of the ladies at Redeemer who faithfully participate in the LWML group! We consistently have a dozen ladies that attend our monthly meetings and work to keep the church social functions and mission projects on track.

One of the events they are working on is a Silent Auction and Bake Sale to help sponsor Erin Black's trip to the LWML convention in Milwaukee, WI in June this year. Erin is a member and former chairperson of the Young Women's Committee of LWML. The quilts for the silent auction will be on display and bid sheets provided starting Sunday, April 23rd, with the winner to be announced on Sunday, May 7th. The bake sale will be a free will offering table filled with lots of goodies to go or share during coffee hour.

The ladies are considering short term mission projects for the summer. One project that will be worked on this summer is replacing the preschool's reading books. Many of the books available for the students are well read and worn (I think they may have been in the classroom since my children were in preschool here!). We will be asking for donations of children's books for classroom use. Teacher Heidi will provide examples of the books needed. Watch for a book display this summer.

The ladies will be meet again on Friday, May 19th at 11:30. We start with a brown bag lunch and a devotion. Dessert will be provided. All ladies are invited to join us.

Mt Baker Zone Joy Shop

Saturday, May 6th

Messiah Lutheran Church

Marysville, WA

In-gathering to benefit the Pregnancy Resource Center of Everett



EASTER SUNDAY

Breakfast Potluck

He is risen!







Council Minutes April 11, 2023

Meeting was called to order at 6:30 by President Les Anderson.

Pastor Watt opened with prayer and a devotion from Matthew 28:9-10 where Jesus told the women that first Easter morning not to be afraid.

The previous month's minutes were reviewed and accepted as written.

The Treasurer's report was presented, and Carl briefed the Council on an error he made in the budget presentation to the congregation at the January meeting. Inadvertently left out of the budget numbers was the amount being paid to Concordia Plan Services for Pastor Watt's benefits. Carl will brief the congregation in a letter. That added expense, and less than anticipated offering income for January through March reveals an operating shortfall of approximately \$4,000.00.

Pastor reported on services conducted, visits made, and other pastoral acts. Three out of four Confirmation classes were held (one canceled for voter meeting). Average attendance: Jan (60); Feb (53); and Mar (60).

Pastor presented **Elder's** report (in Rod's absence). Elder's working on slate of officers for Council positions, and three Elder positions. Recommending compensation for Shannon Kimes as she learns and fills in as organist for Dee.

Stewardship reported there were approximately 50 people at the Easter Sunday breakfast. Easter attendance was 84. A Mother's Day brunch is being planned at church with the Elder's serving. National Day of Prayer planned for May 4th.

Property reported that the exterior lighting upgrade has been approved and work will begin in a week or two. Exterior lights will be converted to LED and a PSE grant has been approved. A Spring outdoor clean-up morning will be scheduled for April 29th.

Education reported that the new preschool playground equipment is scheduled to be installed this month.

Evangelism reported on the material and supplies available from Lutherans for Life have been shared with the preschool and will be available for the congregation.

Unfinished business: The Council approved participation in the LCMS National Offering to be collected before the Synod Convention in late July. Monies collected will be used to publish and provide Lutheran theological material in languages other than English. Also, an application has been made with Fred Meyer for Redeemer to participate in their Community Rewards Program.

New business: Ross would like to schedule a presentation about Lutheran Hour Ministries to the church. Pastor and Ross will coordinate.

Spring Cleaning



Thank you to all
who came out to help!



Follow Him in Generosity

Our Savior calls us to follow Him in generosity. “For I have given you an example, that you also should do just as I have done to you” (John 13:15). We cannot give our lives for the salvation of the world, of course. Praise God, that job’s already done! But with hearts full of thanksgiving for what Jesus has given us, we can follow His example of generous giving. And Jesus’ generosity is not merely an example. Our Lord also commands us to act according to our gifts: “The one who contributes, [let him give] in generosity” (Rom. 12:8).

So, when we bring offerings to the Lord, we should strive to heed His command and follow the pattern He has established for us. Jesus did not give us leftovers. He gave His best. We should not give leftovers, either, but the first and best of what He has given us. Jesus did not give as an afterthought — He gave according to the plan of salvation God established from the foundation of the world. So, when it comes to our own offerings, we should make a thoughtful plan to give generously, in proportion to the way He has blessed us. Like the Macedonian Christians, who gave according to their ability, and even beyond their ability (2 Cor. 8:3), we should honor the Lord by giving a generous portion of the income that God provides us.

We should also give freely, just as Jesus gave freely for us. There is no compulsion involved in our works of love and our offerings to the Lord. We do not give grudgingly, but willingly and cheerfully, each “as he has decided in his heart,” as the Lord says (2 Cor. 9:7). There is no New Testament ceremonial law involved here. Rather, we are free to give as generously as our Savior has given for us!

In the same way, our Lord teaches us to give generously out of our love for Him and for our neighbor. Jesus shows us that genuine love is always love “in deed” (1 John 3:18). It is love that sees our neighbor in need and gives generously to help him. It is love that hears the Word of the Lord and does what it says. If we truly love, we give generously. If we give without love, our giving is not truly following Jesus.

Finally, we follow Jesus in generosity when we support His Gospel ministry and other works of mercy. The people of Israel gave generously to construct and support the operation of the tabernacle, for that was the place where the Lord received the Old Testament sacrifices, through which He bestowed the forgiveness of sins on His people. So, they gave abundantly, so abundantly they had to be told to stop giving! (Ex. 36:5–6). In the same way, we should bring generous offerings to support the Lord’s work. We support our congregations in the preaching of His Word,

Baptism and the Lord's Supper, which bestow His gifts of forgiveness, life and salvation, and we take care of those who are poor and needy.

Our Savior calls us to follow His example in generous giving. Let us then, with thankful hearts, rededicate ourselves to following Him in generosity.

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



Prayer Quilts

God Hears and Answers Prayer

*Before they call out I will answer.
Before they finish...I'll have heard.*
Isaiah 65:24



Many churches have quilting ministries. Some combine these with a prayer ministry as well. Prayer is powerful.

If you are in a quilting ministry, keep your focus on the recipient of the quilt. Remember why you are making it. One resource available for ideas is www.prayerquilting.org.

Prayer quilts may be small or large, simple or complex. More important than how the quilt is made, is the prayer lifted up on behalf of the recipient. Some quilters prefer to tie their quilts rather than sew the layers together. A prayer for the recipient covers each lovingly tied knot. The recipient can rest assured that untold number of prayers are covering them.

Our scriptural mandates to bring everything to God in prayer are serious. How serious are we to live a life of faith that pleases the Lord and endures until the end?

God makes His intention and passion clear in the book of Isaiah: "Before they call out I will answer. Before they finish speaking, I'll have heard." If He would do that for a nation, how much more will He hear and answer for whom His Son died?

Promise

Lord, I know You hear and answer prayer.

Sew On

It is important to sew a label in a quilt...identifying it as a prayer quilt.
This allows everyone to see it and know its purpose.

Submitted
by 

Marianne Giusti

Redeemer Lutheran Preschool



Redeemer Lutheran Preschool
858 W. Smith Road
Bellingham, WA 98226



Oh how these years fly by! We had a super fun April at preschool and the best part was the new playground was installed! The kids love it and we look forward to some sunny warm days in May to enjoy it! We also had a lot of fun at the fire station and learned about safety! We ended with our last field trip to Scrap-It Recycling Center! The students love this field trip to watch a car get crushed into a small ball.

Our last day for the T/TH class is Thursday, May 18th! Our last day for the Pre-K class is Wednesday, May 24th! We will have our graduation celebration that evening at 7:00pm! We will get to spend some time and celebrate our preschool moms with a luncheon right before Mother's Day!

May all you mothers feel loved and appreciated this Mother's Day!

Love & Blessings,
Heidi



On the scale at
Scrap-It
Recycling
Center!

Preschool Field Trip to the North Bellingham Fire Station



Praise that the new preschool playground was installed in April!



The preschool children were very excited to try out the new playground, and as you can see they are enjoying it very much!!



Lutheran's For Life Quote: May 21

“God has chosen each one of us from the beginning of creation. God has also chosen our body to be a temple. He gave us the beautiful gift of a body, and we are called to be stewards of that body, to take care of it and be aware of what we do with it. God also chooses each one of us to belong. We all have a spot and purpose in God’s family—and not one of us is useless or random. God chose us with a purpose. Nothing He does is random.”

Kambria Steinhaus, *Knights 4 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.