



February 2022

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

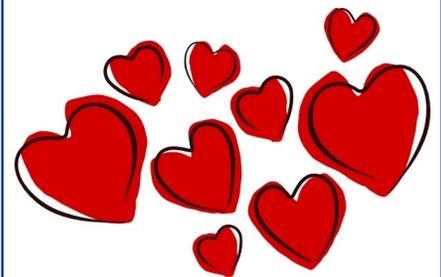
9:15 AM: Adult Bible Study

10:30 AM: Worship Service

March Newsletter deadline is
Friday, February 18, 2022

IN THIS ISSUE:

- Pastor's Pen
- Stewardship
- February Birthdays and Anniversaries
- Bulletin Board Announcements
- Altar Flower sign-up
- Poem
- Letter from Keziah Nicole
- Preschool News
- Council Briefs



From the Pastor's Pen



As predicted in last month's Saltshaker, the title of this portion of the newsletter returns to its original moniker: Pastor's Pen. Does that make me a prophet? Not in the sense that I can predict the future. No one can predict the future. The prophets of old didn't "predict" the future, they simply proclaimed what God told them the future would hold. The prophets proclaimed *God's Word*, not their own. Among the things I heard from my brother pastors who blessed me at my ordination were: preach Christ; keep your eyes on Jesus; serve God's people. The name may have changed, but it's the same poor miserable sinner writing to you.

Preach Christ. The Apostle Paul wrote to the Corinthians, *"And I, when I came to you, brothers, did not come proclaiming to you the testimony of God with lofty speech or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. And I was with you in weakness and in fear and much trembling, and my speech and my message were not in plausible words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God"* (1 Cor 2:1-5). There are a lot of things, issues, and even biblical topics that one can address from the pulpit these days. As important as many of them are, there is nothing more important than Jesus Christ crucified, dead, buried, and risen from the dead for us. Without that, nothing else matters. It is my hope and prayer that we will learn to see all these important things, issues, and even biblical topics in view of Jesus, and what he has done for us on the cross. This is what it means to be Christ-centered, Cross focused.

Keep your eyes on Jesus. The writer of Hebrews preached, *"Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured such opposition from sinful men, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart"* (Heb 12:2-3, NIV'84). There's the cross again! Jesus opened the way of salvation for all mankind by his work on the cross. Just as

the baseball player is coached to keep his eyes on the ball, and the runner is taught to concentrate on the finish line, we Christians are to keep our eyes on Jesus, and not get distracted by all the peripheral stuff around us. The Christian life is like an endurance race. But in Christ, our race has already been won by our Lord. He has already crossed the finish line. By virtue of your belief in him, and your Baptism, you also will cross that finish line (Mk 16:16; Rom 6:3-5).

Serve God's people. Jesus said, *"For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many"* (Mk 10:45). Oh my! There's the cross yet again! There seems to be a pattern here. There is a lot of talk in the New Testament about serving our brothers and sisters in the Lord. Paul wrote to the churches of Galatia, *"For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another"* (Gal 5:13), and Peter wrote, *"As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace"* (1 Pet 4:10). John capped it off with, *"By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers"* (1 Jn 3:16).

As your called and ordained pastor, it is my privilege (and responsibility) to preach Christ to you. I consider it a privilege (and responsibility) to encourage you (as well as myself) to keep your eyes (and mine) on Jesus. We are all in this race together. And I consider it a privilege (not just a responsibility) to be of service to you. My office door is always open. My cell phone is always on. May God have mercy on us all, as we together seek to accomplish his will for us here at Redeemer, in Whatcom County, and wherever he may lead.

See you in church,

Pastor Rex Watt



The Redeemer Lutheran Church Council met on Tuesday, January 11th with the following members present: Les Anderson, Patrick O’Conner, Ross Abbe, Susanne Martinsen, Heidi Kuljis and Louie Kuljis. Absent were Vicar Watt, Corinne Thorsen, Sally Pinski and Patrick Heaviside.

Treasurer’s Report: No financial report was available because of the absence of Corinne and Sally.

Vicar’s Report: Was duly noted and filed as per presented by Head Elder, Ross.

Elder’s Report: Elder’s looked at newly drafted Usher guidelines. Noted new communion trays are on order. Finalized pastor salary according to District guidelines.

Stewardship Report: Barb submitted temporary 2022 schedule. Discussed 5th Sunday potluck date change.

Property Report: Louie cleaned gutters following winter storm. Looking into gutter strainers. Discussion was held regarding the old Bridgeway shed...whether to keep it or not. Reviewed bid to replace parking lot lights with LED lighting. Decision postponed due to some confusion over the bid. Some discussion about forming a kitchen remodel committee...who?

Education: Preschool has increased enrollment! We now have 19 coming M-W-F, and are up to 9 on T-Th. Sunday school is a hit and miss. Still hoping for another person to tag-team the teaching with Heidi.

Unfinished Business: Benevolent Fund guidelines were discussed and it was decided to postpone action until next month. Louie has lead on possible boiler donation to the church. Will check on specs to see if it would be sufficient for our facility.

New Business: Discussed upcoming voter meeting. Suggested the excess funds from general offerings in 2021 (which as of November 30 financials was \$44,061.13) to be distributed as follows:

1. Replace some dry rotted siding on south exterior wall of Sanctuary
2. Repay Endowment Fund \$10,000.00
3. Replace playground equipment for preschool
4. Replace outside parking lot lighting for increased safety and energy savings
5. Replace boiler?
6. Set additional funds aside for kitchen remodel, if needed.



LIVING A STEWARDSHIP

It is all about your heart...

Everything we have is a gift from God that we are to use to help others.

Life

God in Man Made Manifest

The season of Epiphany focuses on how God was made manifest in the flesh of Jesus. The church spends time hearing of the miracles, signs, and wonders of Jesus in the world. And this made plain to all that Jesus really is who He said He was. He is the Second Person of the Holy Trinity, the only begotten Son of the Father, in the flesh. For “the Word became flesh and dwelt among us” (John 1:14).

It is revealed for all the world to see that Jesus is God in the flesh. It is made manifest by His words and His work, by what He said and by what He did. And these belong together, for “the Word became flesh and dwelt among us.” Jesus is the Word and will of God in the flesh, that is, He is the walking, talking enactment of God’s Word.

It is no different for us. We are called not just to believe in God in hearts but also to trust in God in word and deed. As James wrote: “But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves” (James 1:22), and again, “What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? ... So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead. ... Show me your faith apart from your works, and I will show you my faith by my works. ... For as the body apart from the spirit is dead, so also faith apart from works is dead” (James 2:14, 17–18, 26).

Our faith is lived out in works for our neighbor. Our trust in the Word and will of God is lived out not in word only but also in deed and in truth. In other words, the Epiphany of the Lord creates in us an epiphany of our faith in our works of obedience to God who commanded them. By this, our faith is made manifest to the world. It is, as Luther wrote of faith:

Faith is a divine work in us. It changes us and makes us to be born anew of God (John 1). It kills the old Adam and makes altogether different people, in heart and spirit and mind and powers, and it brings with it the Holy Spirit.

Oh, it is a living, busy, active, mighty thing, this faith. And so it is impossible for it not to do good works incessantly. It does not ask whether there are good works to do, but before the question rises, it has already done them, and is always at the doing of them.

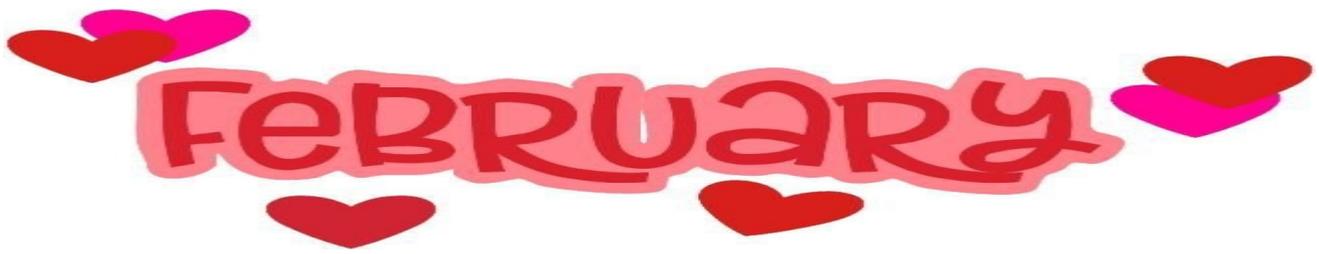
He who does not these works is a faithless man. He gropes and looks about after faith and good works and knows neither what faith is nor what good works are, though he talks and talks, with many words about faith and good works.

Faith is a living, daring confidence in God’s grace, so sure and certain that a man would stake his life on it a thousand times. This confidence in God’s grace and knowledge of it makes men glad and bold and happy in dealing with God and all His creatures. And this is the work of the Holy Spirit in faith. Hence a man is ready and glad, without compulsion, to do good to everyone, to serve everyone, to suffer everything, in love and praise to God, who has shown him this grace.

And thus it is impossible to separate works from faith, quite as impossible as to separate burning and shining from fire. Beware, therefore, of your own false notions and of the idle talkers, who would be wise enough to make decisions about faith and good works, and yet are the greatest fools. (*Preface to the Book of Romans*)

So, then, let our faith be active by God’s power in the Word through the Holy Spirit. And let then our faith be made manifest to the world by what this faith does: serving our neighbor – in church, in the family, and society – with the works of faith in time, talents, and treasures.

**The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod
LCMS Stewardship Ministry
Newsletter Article - February 2022**



FEBRUARY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		01	02 Bulletin Deadline PS Chapel 3:30-5:00 pm Youth Confirmation Class	03 PS Chapel 7:00 pm: 1&2 Samuel Bible Study	04	05
06 9:15 am: Adult Bible Study 10:30 am: Worship /Communion	07	08 6:30 pm: Elders	09 Bulletin Deadline PS Chapel 3:30-5:00 pm Youth Confirmation Class	10 PS Chapel 7:00 pm: 1&2 Samuel Bible Study	11	12
13 9:15 am: Adult Bible Study 10:30 am: Worship /Communion with Children's Minisrty Valentine's Day Potluck	14 Happy Valentine's Day	15 6:30 pm: Council	16 Bulletin Deadline PS Chapel 3:30-5:00 pm Youth Confirmation Class	17 PS Chapel 7:00 pm: 1&2 Samuel Bible Study	18 Saltshaker Deadline No Preschool Mid-Winter Break	19
20 9:15 am: Adult Bible Study 10:30 am: Worship /Communion	21 Presidents' Day No Preschool	22	23 Bulletin Deadline PS Chapel 3:30-5:00 pm Youth Confirmation Class	24 PS Chapel 7:00 pm: 1&2 Samuel Bible Study	25	26
27 9:15 am: Adult Bible Study 10:30 am: Worship /Communion with Children's Ministry	28					



February Birthdays

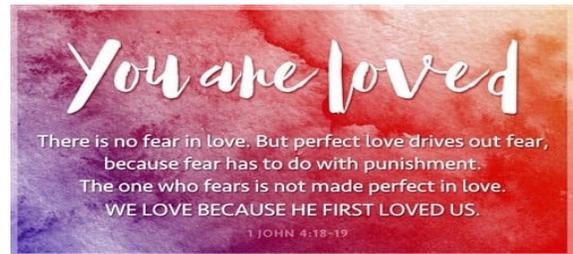
02/02 David Stamps
 02/03 Kaarina Van Berkum
 02/11 Roger Granger
 02/11 Joe Dupuis
 02/12 Louis Kuljjs
 02/14 Joy Anderson
 02/15 Anthony McLeod
 02/18 Heidi Kuljjs
 02/24 Madelyn Potvin
 02/26 Alice Legoe
 02/27 William Baeder
 02/27 Vicki Grabish

March Birthdays

03/05 Pamela Hallmark
 03/13 Vivian Hallmark
 03/20 Don Strong
 03/22 Anne Leonard
 03/25 Arlene Lund
 03/30 Ross Abbe
 03/31 Melissa Noste

Elder Care List

A—Hah: Larry Schell
 Hal—Leg: Ross Abbe
 Leo—P: Kari Marttila
 R—Wri: Patrick O'Connor



February Anniversaries

02/01 William & Janet Baeder
 02/02 Ronald & Jan Willand
 02/06 Don & Alex Strong

*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!*

Fellowship Host/Hostess Volunteer Schedule

Feb. 06 - Cheryl Kortlever & Jamie Dupuis
 Feb. 13 - Valentine's Day Potluck
 Feb. 20 - Marsha Edin & Janet Baeder
 Feb. 27 - Dave & Sandy Stamps and Dee Watt

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.

Shut-ins: Virginia Blackmore

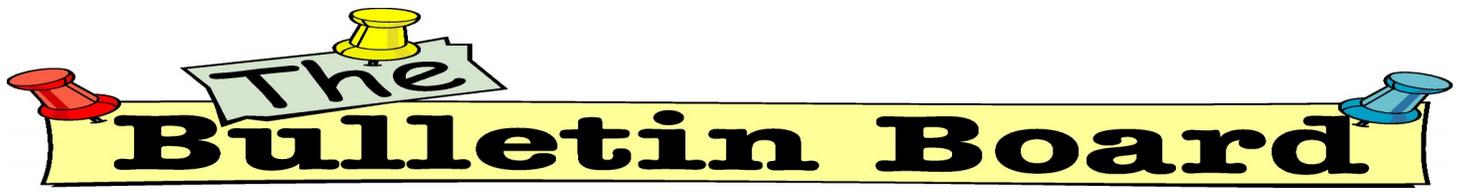
ASSISTING US IN WORSHIP – FEBRUARY

Altar Care
 Arenda Hovde

THE VOLUNTEER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

	ELDER/ASSISTANT	LAY READER	SOUNDBOARD	COUNTERS
Feb. 06	Patrick/Larry	Sally Pinski	Anthony	Barb/Cristi
Feb. 13	Larry	Pastor Watt	Kari	Ron/Dale
Feb. 20	Kari/Patrick	Ross Abbe	Rod	Barb/Spiro
Feb. 27	Ross	Pastor Watt	Anthony	Anthony/Cristi

Should you have any questions, please contact Dee for Host/Hostesses and Tabatha for the rest.
 Thank you!



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. You may continue to drop off your tithe envelopes to the secure Prayer Box.

SUNDAY ADULT BIBLE STUDY MEETS AT 9:15 am: "Today's Bible Readings", led by Larry Schell. Gain a better understanding and deeper appreciation for today's Bible Readings as we study and discuss them prior to the Service.

THURSDAY NIGHT ADULT BIBLE STUDY AT 7:00 PM: Study of 1st & 2nd Samuel, led by Colin Grabish.

DEVOTIONALS: "Our Daily Bread" for Dec.-Feb. and "Portals of Prayer" for Jan.-Mar. are available at the bulletin table and the mailbox table.

2022 ALTAR FLOWERS SIGN-UP SHEET is posted on the bulletin board by the office. This is an opportunity for you to have flowers placed on the altar in honor of a birthday, anniversary, memory, etc. If you would like to place flowers on the altar for a special occasion, please place your name and phone number on the line corresponding with the date on the altar flower sign-up sheet. If you would like Lynnata to purchase flowers for you, please contact her - 360-318-5298.

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.

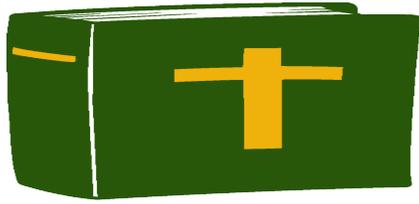
Online: www.kfuo.org Radio: 550AM KARI 11:30 am

VALENTINE'S DAY POTLUCK FEBRUARY 13: Following the morning worship service. Sunday lunch is a great way to meet new people or get to know each other better. Bring your friends, family, and a dish to share! A great opportunity for fellowship and great food! A Sign-up sheet is posted in Fellowship Hall.

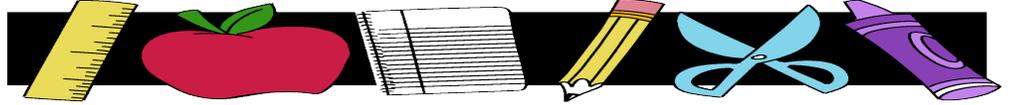
FOOD BANK: The Ferndale Food Bank is currently asking for donations of grape jelly, peanut butter, canned fruit and soup. Only store bought items please! Donations of these items would be greatly appreciated. Thank you!

SERVICE MEMBER CARE PACKAGES: Sunday, **February 6th**, will be the last day to bring a card or note to put into the envelopes being sent out to the service members. The next shipment of care packages will be going out in March, just in time for Easter! The last Sunday to bring items for the care packages will be **March 20th**. Thank you for your support of these men and women that are very dear to the Redeemer Family.





RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



Sunday School will be on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month for elementary aged children. If you would like to help out with Sunday School or teach, please let Heidi know!

Thank you!



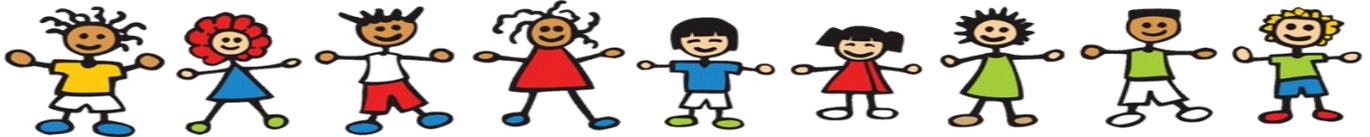
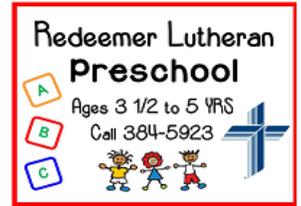
We are so grateful to Dennis Urbanec for plowing and making the church parking lot accessible in the snow. Thank you, it is very much appreciated!



Redeemer Lutheran Preschool



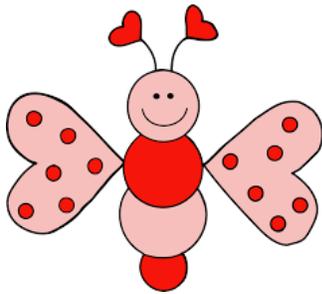
Redeemer Lutheran Preschool
858 W. Smith Road
Bellingham, WA 98226



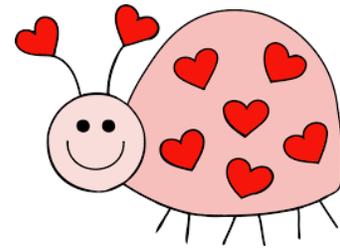
Happy February!

I know the rest of our school year is going to fly by! We had a great January in preschool and added 4 more children to our program! We have many fun things planned in February including a field trip to the Ferndale library, our Valentines party and lots of learning and chapels with Pastor Rex! Sending much love and thankfulness for each one of you and your support for our preschool program!

With love,
Heidi



**HAPPY
VALENTINE'S
DAY!**



Wish List



Wish List for the 2021-2022 Preschool Year

24 pack of Crayola crayons (**18 boxes**)

Construction Paper 12 x 18in (**2 packs each**)

-black

-white

-tan

Pom poms (**assorted colors and sizes**)

6 qt Sterilite bins – clear bins with colored lids (**8 bins**)

16 qt Sterilite bins – clear bins with colored lids (**8 bins**)

Pipe Cleaners 50pk (**1 pack each**)

-orange

-yellow

-brown

-white

-purple

-black

-green

-blue

GIFT CARDS: Dollar Tree, Hobby Lobby, Michaels

IF ALL WHO HATE WOULD LOVE US
James Newton Matthews, in Washington Star

If all who hate would love us,
And all our loves were true,
The stars that swing above us
Would brighten in the blue;
If cruel words were kisses,
And every scowl a smile,
A better world than this is,
Would hardly be worth while;
If purses would not tighten
To meet a brother's need,
The load we bear would lighten
Above the grave of greed.

If those who whine would whistle,
And those who languish laugh,
The rose would route the thistle,
The grain outrun the chaff;
If hearts were only jolly,
If grieving were forgot,
And tears of melancholy
Were things that now are not;
Then love would kneel to duty,
And all the world would seem
A bridal bower of beauty,
A dream within a dream.

If men would cease to worry,
And women cease to sigh,
And all be glad to bury
Whatever has to die;
If neighbor spake to neighbor,
As love demands of all,
The rust would eat the sabre,
The spear stay on the wall;
Then every day would glisten,
And every eve would shine,
And God would pause to listen,
And life would be divine.

Submitted
by 

Marianne Giusti



Final Letter From Keziah Nicole



Huling sulat sa aking sponsor

Final Letter to My Sponsor

Petsa / Date October 15, 2021



1 Mensahe ng Pasasalamat para sa Aking Sponsor / A Thank-You Message for My Sponsor

Hello everyone! How are you all? Hoping that you're all great by God's grace! I'm sad that this is gonna be my last greetings to all of you I never thought I will be writing this letter too soon. Time fly so fast indeed! But now, I just want to thank everyone for the life, time, prayers and encouragement that you brought me this whole time. Since the first day we met, all of you have been always there. You've been consistent in every way. Know that this love we've shared will never be forgotten.

2 Paano Nakatulong sa Akin ang Sponsorship Program / How the Sponsorship Program Has Helped Me

This sponsorship program helped me so much. I can't imagine life without you guys! If not for this program, I have no idea where I would be currently. From all the encouragements to the support, gifts, letters, especially prayers. I know I changed so much - I know you can't give anything but you taught me that God can do anything! I remembered when I was a freshman college I keep on thinking where I can get money to pay my tuition or if I'll ever finish school. But God use you as an instrument not only to me but for my family too. Over the years, I learned that the Lord is always by our side. He hears and He sees our hearts when we come to him through our prayers.

3 Mga Susunod kong Hakbang at Pangarap sa Kinabukasan / My Next Steps and Hopes for the Future

To my next steps and hope for the future, focusing on the present will be my constant goal. As the Lord said, do not worry about tomorrow, but instead pray for every situation. Continuing to study college will help me fulfill my dream of becoming an architect. With this I can help my family and I can show everyone that this is all God's work. Without Him I cannot do anything.

4 Mga Maari mong Ipanalangin Tungkol sa Akin / Ways You Can Continue to Pray for Me

The things that you can continually pray for me is first for my family, for protection, guidance and provision. For my study and goals that the Lord will provide and guide me. Lastly, my walk with the Lord. To make the best of time He has given me and to do things that can glorify Him.

5 Ang Aking Panalangin Para sa Iyo / My Prayer for You

I always pray that Redeemer Lutheran Church / Friends will be blessed abundantly and always be united, as you continually bless and help others like you helped me. May God give all of you strength, protection and provision that you needed each day.

Once again, I am beyond grateful for all your support. Although this may be my last letter, but you should know that this relationship will always hold a special place in my heart since you have become part of my life. Thank you and God bless you all! I will miss you.



*Ordination & Installation
January 23, 2022*





THANK YOU Dear People of Redeemer for your outpouring of loving support and words of encouragement in the Lord, cards and gifts in celebration of Rex's ordination/installation. This journey began three years ago as the Lord called Rex, through you, His people at Redeemer. God be praised as this chapter of ordination is completed and Rex moves forward to serve as your shepherd and complete his academic requirements. All of this would not be possible without you, your prayers and support. Thanking our Lord upon every remembrance of you for the multitude of blessings He provides to us through you.

Love in Christ,
Pastor Rex and Dee



Lutheran’s For Life Quote: February 27

“There’s so much work to be done, so many lives to protect. The unborn, the mentally ill, the hungry, the broken, and many others still need to hear about our hope in Christ and the love He has for us, and it’s our duty to bring it to them.”

Katie Reid, 2021 Y4Life intern – 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 ([lthelcms](https://twitter.com/lthelcms)), Instagram (thelcms) and Periscope

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