

Redeemer news

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF REDEEMER BY THE SEA LUTHERAN CHURCH
NOVEMBER 2017 – VOLUME 5 ISSUE 11



WHO IS THE SON OF MAN?

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say the Son of Man is?” – Matthew 16:13, NIV

Jesus asked His disciples two questions. First he asked, “Who do people say the Son of Man is?” They answered him with an unsatisfying reply that I’ll paraphrase as, “Nobody really knows... They are still guessing.” Then Jesus narrowed it down to perhaps what was more important to Him, and definitely was more important to His followers, when he asked, “But who do YOU say that I am?” (Matthew 16:15, *emphasis mine*). These two questions show us the essence of the mission before us – making Jesus known, in a world that doesn’t really know Him.

Quite frankly, the answer to the question of who Jesus is, is even more confused nowadays than it was in Biblical times. According to a Barna Research report from 2017ⁱ, “5 Popular Beliefs about Jesus,” even though most people believe that Jesus was a real person, some don’t. They also discovered that younger generations are increasingly less likely to believe that Jesus is God. And Americans are divided on whether Jesus was sinless. And yet, the majority of Americans claim to have made a commitment to Jesus Christ. But if they doubt His divinity, sinlessness and even His existence ...



in the words of our Small Catechism ... “what does this mean?” Even though the number is declining, studies still report that as many as 75% of Americans claim to be Christian. But then we have to ask if these are active followers of Jesus, or Christian in name only?

Whether it’s scientifically researched or purely anecdotal, we all recognize that times have changed in our country, and perhaps even more so in our Southwestern corner of the States. Most of us can remember a time just a few short decades ago, when most people went to church – or at least knew they *should* go. Most people knew about the Bible and the stories it contained, and they knew who Jesus was. Furthermore, our society was built around the morality found in the Bible; it was assumed. Nobody worried about Church and State issues as much; it was assumed that for the State to work, Church was necessary. But times have changed. And we have an opportunity to understand anew, as Concordia Seminary president Dale A. Meyer saysⁱⁱ, “the radical nature of faith in Jesus,” because our faith in Jesus moves us to action that is often unpopular, and more and more counter-cultural.

The reason Jesus asked His disciples, “who do you say that I am?” is because He knew that their life depended on, and would be directed by, their answer to that question. So when Peter responded, “*You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God,*” Jesus replied, “*Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by flesh and*”

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GROWTH GROUP UPDATES

Our Growth Groups provide people an opportunity to connect with other believers and do life together in a supportive and faith-nurturing cluster of friends. Visit our web site at RedeemerbytheSea.org for a complete listing and information concerning our Growth Groups.

SUNDAY AM STUDY

The four Sundays of November are known as the Sundays of the End Times. The Bible contains numerous reverences to the end of history. There are few subjects of Christian doctrine that have more divergent views and opinions about how history will finally end.

This area of Christian Biblical Theology is known as **Eschatology**. This month the Sunday Adult Bible Class will examine this doctrine concerning the end of times. Biblical Eschatology

provides us with information about temporal death, the death of the wicked, the death of the righteous, the signs of the end times, the second advent of Jesus Christ and the final judgment.

We confess this doctrine in all of our Creeds, the Apostles Creed, the Nicene Creed, and the Athanasian Creed. All religions have doctrines of Eschatology. How does Biblical Christian Eschatology differ from all of them? Outline handouts are provided with Bibles available to all in attendance. Rev. Roy Faulstick moderates and encourages discussion and questions. Pick up a refreshment, join in and be further refreshed by the one Eternal God and Savior, Jesus Christ.

- Pastor Roy Faulstick

SALT & LIGHT

The Salt & Light Ministry believes that you should understand Christian Citizenship, which includes (1) be knowledgeable on the important issues (2) know the position of your representatives on those issues (3) vote. That is why when the Mayor of Carlsbad called Redeemer and asked to speak, the Salt & Light group was glad to accept the opportunity to host. But why get involved in the operations of government? We now live in a nation that allows what had been forbidden. In fact, it is now common for those who stand up for the sanctity of life over abortion, traditional marriage over same sex unions, protest the erosion of 1st Amendment religious liberties, to be persecuted with job or

business loss, threats for safety, labeled as 'haters', and more. The ungodly stains in our society are not in biblical Christianity but in the failure to put it into action. If you don't have a standard of Truth upon which to base society, the result for America will be whoever gains the most political power will rule the rest of us.

Time and again many of our Founding Fathers are quoted on the belief that our form of government requires a moral people. The Founders recognized that the best teacher of morality is the Bible and the Christian religion. George Washington said, "Religion and morality are the essential pillars of civil society." "The great pillars of all government and of social life are virtue, morality, and religion. This is the armor, my friend, and this alone, that renders us invincible", said Patrick Henry. This sentiment has been echoed by dozens of presidents and famous American leaders. Thomas Paine made it clear that God not government is supreme when he said, "The cause of America is in a great measure the cause of all mankind. Where, some say, is the king of America? I'll tell you, friend, He reigns above." The Bible tells us the purpose of government is to be God's servant to restrain evil and reward good (Romans 13: 1-7; 1 Peter 2:13-14). But what if government does not act in Godly ways, what should we do, if anything? The Bible tells us of Peter and the apostles preaching against the wishes of the authorities. The disciple's response was, "*We must obey God rather than men...*" (Acts 5:29). So, Peter made it clear that we cannot have political views outside of our Christian faith. Anytime a government requires Christians to do what God forbids or forbids what God commands then we must follow God's laws not man's.

What would America be like if every Christian prayed for God's guidance and voted their conscience? It would be a positive thing, would it not? Besides praying for our leaders and nation, voting is the best way we Christians can influence the path our nation follows. When we have an opportunity to elect our leaders, we should take advantage by voting for those who best demonstrate Christian values. "*Moreover thou shalt provide out of all the people able men, such as fear God, men of truth, hating unjust gain; and place such over them, to be the rulers of thousands, hundreds, fifties, tens.*" (Exodus 18:21 .

Your Salt & Light Co-Leader,
- Jerry Meyer

GROWTH GROUPS, *CONT.*

GRIEF GROUP

Thursday, November 16th, 1:30 P.M. is our monthly Grief Support meeting. Topic will be "How Do I Get Through This"? We will also discuss our plans for December. Look forward to seeing you! Contact Norma at 760-931-1947 for more information.

- Norma Russell

BOWLING

Teams gather to join other teams for the GR8R times league at Bowlero in San Marcos on Monday evenings 6-8:30pm. The next league has started, but if you would like to be a substitute, just let me know!

- Dorothy Doughty

BIRTHDAY GROUP

We celebrated the September birthdays of Suzanne Hanthorn and Bettye and Don Howard with the October birthdays of Jo Brandt, Erika Burke, Ann Doering and Paul Lahr on FRIDAY, October 13 at the Green Dragon Tavern and Museum. The fellowship was spirited, the food was good (mine was!) and the desserts were chocolate brownies covered with ice cream.

We are celebrating the November birthdays of Faye Bacon, Bill Barnes and Mavis and Dale Ward on FRIDAY, November 10, at 11:30 a.m. at La Costa Glen. Dave Berrier has made the arrangements for us and will accept your payment of seventeen (\$17) dollars for lunch, with no tip nor tax per La Costa Glen's regulations. Wine will be available at an additional cost. Payments may be made to Dave Berrier by cash or check. Late cancellations may require payment.

There is a limited menu with three entrees, which may be obtained from Dave Berrier or Jo Voertman.

In addition to your lunch, we request a one dollar per celebrant donation which will go to the Salvation Army.

Everyone is welcome to join us but you do need a reservation with the Birthday Coordinator, Jo Voertman, jvbythesea@cox.net, 760-721-6674.

- Jo Voertman

BRIDGE GROUP

We went to the 'Beach for Bridge' on October 27, 2017, and it was a special afternoon!

Thank you, George Ann Barnes, for your kind invitation to enjoy what you and Bill have enjoyed for 20 years, your Beach House overlooking the Pacific Ocean. Dessert and coffee were served at 12:30 and then we let the games begin!

The High Scorer for the day was George Ann and Carolyn Schmaltz was very close at Second High. Lois O'Donnell will be the first to tell you she barely saw a face card in the 18 hands played.

November 17th, we are invited to play at the home of Jo Voertman. We begin with dessert and coffee and always aim for a reasonably good score at the bridge tables.

If you would enjoy playing bridge we welcome you! Please contact me if there is an interest as a regular, we meet monthly, or as a substitute.
baconfaye3@gmail.com; 760-707-6677.

Friends are gifts from our loving God and enduring friendships are the beautiful results. God is good, oh, so good!

- Faye Bacon

HOLY HACKERS

The golf lovers meet once a month for an afternoon of golf. The format is a scramble format so all levels of expertise are welcome....beginner to expert. Afterwards many enjoy a meal together where spouses/significant other non-golfers may join the group. For more detailed information of time and location email di.haarmeyer@icloud.com to be added to the Holy Hackers group mailing. Come join us, we have a lot of fun!

- Di Haarmeyer

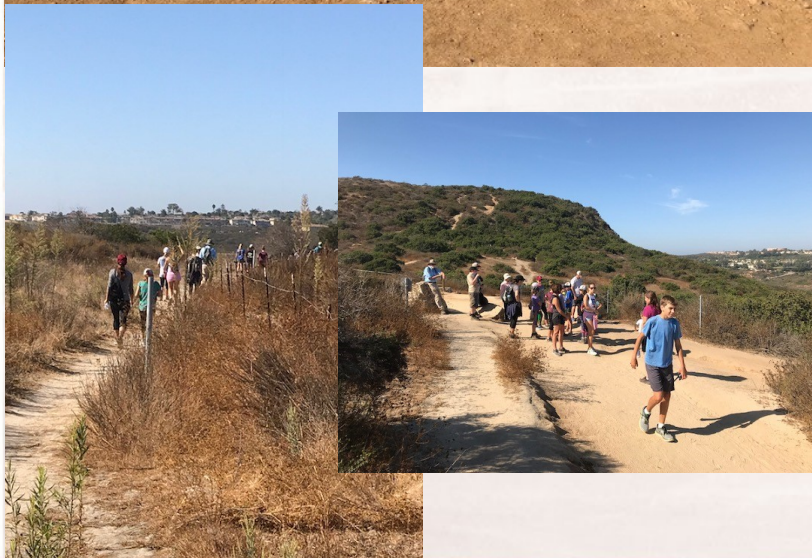
MISSIONAL COMMUNITY

Do you want to make a difference by bringing the love of Christ to your neighborhood and our community? Join us once a month on the first Thursday of the month from 6:30-8pm (6pm if you want to join us for dinner!) Our next date is December 7th We will gather to share our experiences from community service and Christian witness. We'll enjoy each other's company, encourage each other, open God's Word and pray for what God is doing.

- Pastor Augie

HIKING CALAVERA HILLS

OCTOBER 14, 2017



UPCOMING SERMON SERIES



Join us on an unforgettable journey this season to experience Hope, Love, Joy, and Peace

Over two thousand years ago, a star burst through the darkness and signaled the long-awaited, yet still unexpected birth of a Savior.

Christmas can still truly give us a taste of the most wonderful time of world history. Jesus—the Messiah, the Savior—came as the light into the darkness and stress and pain of the world—our world. That world then, just like our world now, including our lives, needs the light to illuminate, clarify, guide, and heal. Christ's coming brings that ultimate light through hope, love, joy, and peace. This is the journey of following the star to Christmas—and beyond!

This Advent season, you are invited to follow the star. It's not just about the destination, but also about a journey we can take together to experience God's love and grace in the midst of real life.

Nov. 29 Wednesday 6:30pm A Journey of HOPE

Dec 3 A Journey of JOY

Dec 17 A Journey of PEACE

Dec 24 10am A Journey of LOVE

Dec 25 5 & 7pm A Journey to CHRISTMAS

ALTAR FLOWERS

We have a great group of volunteers that make our altar flower arrangements each week. There is a need for at least one more volunteer. This involves doing an arrangement one Sunday per month. Training will be provided. I was once told "there is no such thing as an ugly flower arrangement". You do not need to be an expert but just like flowers and arranging them. Contact Di Haarmeyer at di.haarmeyer@icloud.com or 936-537-2122 .

- Di Haarmeyer

CHRISTMAS DECORATING- DECEMBER 2, 9:30AM

Mark your calendar!

We will be decorating the church for the coming *Christmas Season*. MANY helpers are needed, especially tall-younger men (ladder-work).

Should be finished around 11 a.m. so everyone can go home to get ready for the Christmas dinner at the Finnerty's home that evening.

Questions contact: BJ Campbell-Lahr, 1-760-945-3750 or bjclahr@cox.net

- BJ Campbell-Lahr

PARENTING CHRISTIAN KIDS: ASK QUESTIONS THAT SPARK GREAT CONVERSATIONS

"May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing to you, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer." —Psalm 19:14

For many families, a highlight of Thanksgiving is the opportunity to enjoy meaningful conversations—often around a good meal. Asking the right questions is key, and with a little brainstorming, you can move beyond “What are you thankful for?”

Good questions can spark great discussions where family members learn more about each other. Use these tips to ask questions that help children dig deep and open up:

Ask questions that don't have specific answers.

When questions are surprising, children's answers will be unpredictable as well.

Ditch the question mark. Ask kids to tell about a time they experienced something, like being left out or being helped by a friend.

Open Up to Open-Ended Questions. If a question can be answered with a simple “yes” or “no,” it will stifle kids' answers.

“Why do you think...?” and “What could you do...?”

Instead of having kids guess what people in the Bible thought, turn the tables and make it personal.

“What if...?” These wondering questions make kids really ponder the context of a situation.

“Why...?” and “How...?” These questions often help kids make new discoveries, while “who, what, when, and where” questions are usually just for review.

ASK JESUS:

1. To bless your family time, especially during the holidays.
2. To help you challenge your children to dig deep into faith-related issues.
3. To fill your family members with gratitude for their blessings—especially their faith in God.

DATE NIGHT DROP 'N SHOP

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9TH, 12-4PM

Drop'n Shop is an opportunity for parents to have some time alone to shop in peace, wrap gifts or take a break from all the Christmas preparations. Enjoy a few hours to yourselves while your kids have fun

Min. Age - 1 year. Cost: \$10 for one child, \$20 for 2 children, \$30 for 3 or more children

For more information, or to reserve a place, please contact Clare Donovan: [760-496-8088](tel:760-496-8088) Email: clareanddeclan@yahoo.co.uk

- Clare Donovan

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Carol Tufte	Nov 2
Ralph Elliott	Nov 15
Jill Rutan	Nov 16
Siri Gawecki	Nov 19
Faye Bacon	Nov 19
Mavis Ward	Nov 20
Matt Taylor	Nov 20
Dale Ward	Nov 23
Edith Witt	Nov 24
Kim Rockwell	Nov 25
Bill Barnes	Nov 25
Chloe Swick	Nov 27
Marilyn Krueger	Nov 28

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Paul & BJ Lahr	Nov 7
Barry & Joan Machado	Nov 8
Ralph & Noreen Wenstone	Nov 11
Pastor Augie & Rachelle Iadicicco	Nov 18
Michael & Lori Batherson	Nov 19
Lyle & Evelyn Meyer	Nov 20
William & Andrea Fulton	Nov 21

SCARE AWAY HUNGER PEANUT BUTTER DRIVE SUCCESS!

The North County Food Bank and Redeemer by the Sea thank you for your generous donations of peanut butter during this food drive! In total we gathered **240 POUNDS** of peanut butter, an excellent source of protein! Your help will provide nutritious food to households with children living in poverty in North County .

- Kerry Vara

PRESCHOOL

Happy November!

Firstly, thanks to everyone for making our 2nd Annual Pumpkin Patch field trip a success! Secondly, "Costumes on Parade" was so much fun with Pastor Augie & Rachelle leading the way as Grand Marshall & Marshall-ette, followed by Kris Urdahl, Redeemer Council President. On a side note, the Carlsbad Fire Dept. will be making a visit to our school this month to teach the children about fire safety.

Thanksgiving is upon us and it is a time for family, friends, and giving thanks. Here at Redeemer we are so *thankful* for your continued support in the success of the school and your little ones. With that being said, we will be featuring our very first "Family Movie Night" this month.

Enjoy this time together and Happy Thanksgiving!
Blessings,
- Miss Dee



At Redeemer—sponsored by the Preschool
November 17th—5:00-7:30 PM

Featuring: "MOANA"

FREE ADMISSION—*Food Available for
Purchase* *CASH PREFERRED*

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Can you believe it - Christmas is right around the corner! We have an exciting program planned for December 16th to. The children will present The Christmas Story through song and narration in the sanctuary, followed by a family "Keepsake Christmas" in the Fellowship Hall with lots of fun. Teams are now forming, so if you would like to help with the planning from beginning to end, please contact me as soon as possible.

Just a reminder that we are offering a combined Sunday School at 9:45 a.m., so you have 2 opportunities for your children to learn about God.

If you would like to be involved in the Sunday School Program in any way, please let me know as we are always looking for more hands to serve the Lord.

Until next time.....

- Rhonda Sutherlin
Sunday School Director

December 2nd
5:30pm
At the home of Mike & Tanya Finnerty
Watch the announcements for appetizer & dessert sign ups!

LUTHERAN WOMEN IN MISSION

JOIN US AS WE SERVE!
NOVEMBER 14TH AT 9:30AM

Please come join us in the Fellowship Hall as we serve our community with two projects.

1. Paint 40 Faith Journey Boxes which are used to store items that don't fit into a photo album.
2. Provide sack lunches for 20 homeless men at InterFaith in Carlsbad before they go to their work assignments.

Please remember to bring your mite boxes to the meeting. We will vote on which missions that we will support for the past year and how much we can donate.

- Barbara Gehring



CHRISTMAS PARTY - DEC 12TH 6PM

Barbara Gehring's Home: 6603 Fiona Pl, Carlsbad
760 929 1926

Come Celebrate with your fellow sisters in Christ Please sign up in the lobby. We will have a appetizers & wine and a delicious Italian dinner. It will be a wonderful time to celebrate your Secret Sister for the year. We will exchange gifts and choose new Secret Sisters for 2018.

If you don't have a secret sister, just bring a gift valued \$25 and exchange with another Christian sister. Carpooling is recommended.

- Barbara Gehring

FIRST COMMUNION RETREAT - OCTOBER 21, 2017



Parents and students had a time of learning about the sacrament of Holy Communion and then they worked together to paint their chalices.



The completed chalices ready to be fired.



STEWARDSHIP

Our Father in heaven has claimed us as His own. By the shedding of His Son's blood, by the His death for our sins and His resurrection for our justification, God the Father has received us back into His family. By water combined with His Word, promise, and name, the Holy Spirit has taken up residence in us. We belong to Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. He is in us, and we are in Him. And being in Him, all things are ours. In Him, we are richly and abundantly blessed.

Our true treasure and wealth is that we belong to the most holy Trinity and everything that is His belongs also to us: righteousness, peace, eternal life. Even our temporal treasures are gifts from His fatherly divine goodness and mercy.

We receive our treasures from Him, and thus, as (good stewards of His varied grace,) (1 Peter 4:10) we manage them in such a way that they may be returned to Him. We bring them to Him, hallowed through prayers of thanksgiving and God's holy Word, as an offering. Thus,

"For to the one who has, more will be given, and he will have an abundance" (Matthew 13:12).

all our possessions, as gifts from God, are also offerings to Him, from which we eat to nourish our bodies, share with our family, neighbors, and fellow Christians, with the poor and even our enemies, as holy things

given by the holy God. His temporal gifts are blessings to and for us, and bring blessing upon us even as they are pressed into His service for His kingdom and the souls that receive them.

Thus we place all that we have into God's hands, and He never fails to remember us and pours out the fullness of His promises upon us. We give thanks for all that He has done, is doing, and will continue to do. We give thanks by not taking for ourselves, but giving to all even as our heavenly Father has given to us.

As we prepare for the celebrations of Thanksgiving, may we all give thanks continually for all that we are and all that we have because of God's providential care. And may we be all the more diligent in bringing everything that we have received from God to Him, so that He may bless it and employ it for the good of all — even for us. "

WHO IS THE SON OF MAN? CONT. FROM PG 1

blood, but by my Father in heaven." (Matthew 16:16-17). Peter had given the right answer. It was on this confession and understanding of who the Son of Man is, that Christ would build His Church.

Ultimately what we put our faith in is not health or possessions ... or even family! These are all gifts from our Creator, but they are not sufficient upon which to place our hope and our trust. There is only One worthy of our faith. There is only One whom we fear, love and trust above all else. That is who the Son of Man is!

"Faith is a living, unshakeable confidence in God's grace; it is so certain, that someone would die a thousand times for it. This kind of trust in and knowledge of God's grace makes a person joyful, confident, and happy with regard to God and all creatures. This is what the Holy Spirit does by faith. Through faith, a person will do good to everyone without coercion, willingly and happily; he will serve everyone, suffer everything for the love and praise of God, who has shown him such grace." (Martin Luther's Preface to the Book of Romans)

So who is Jesus to you? I pray that He is the One who puts your conscience at ease and gives you confidence when it comes to your future – both in this life and beyond – because He has addressed all your spiritual and physical needs. But I also pray that He is the One who puts your heart, hands and head to work to make Him known to those who do not know Him and who need to feel His embrace!

At Redeemer we talk about "Joining Jesus in Our Community." Jesus made it His mission to reveal to the world God's love through His witness and work – chief of which was His death on the cross. And before He ascended into heaven, Jesus showed the world that He was triumphant over the grave, and He gave His followers the job of continuing His work of making Him known. He said, "... *you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth*" (Acts 1:8) Let us continue Jesus' mission of revealing God's Only Son to the World. Let us make sure that people know who the Son of Man is!

Making Him known,
Pastor Augie

https://issuu.com/concordiasem/docs/csm_fall_2017_final/6
"Ibid.



WHO ARE YOUR ELDERS?

Otis Haarmeyer

elders@redeemerbythesea.org

936-537-4256

Your elders are a resource to you for your spiritual and ministry needs. Feel free to contact them with any needs or concerns – or just to say hello!

They are: Dave Berrier, Jim Brunner, Tom Burke, Matt Busch, Wayne Chapman, Carl Gehring, Otis Haarmeyer, Ed Meinardus, Jerry Meyer, Lyle Meyer, Joel Rabe, Ken Swick, Charles Um

WHO CAN I CONTACT?

Pastor, Rev. Augie Iadicicco

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Church Council President, Kris Urdahl

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Trustees, Shawn Burkholder

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Prayer, Jo Brandt

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