

# Redeemer

## news



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF REDEEMER BY THE SEA LUTHERAN CHURCH | SEPTEMBER 2017 – VOLUME 5 ISSUE 9

## Ctrl+Alt+Del Resetting Life, from Regret to Repentance

*“What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? Thanks be to God – through Jesus Christ our Lord!” – Romans 7:24-25*

Do you ever wish you could reboot your life like you reboot your computer? What is it that has gone wrong in your life that you wish you could go back and undo? This series will guide us in a time to reflect on what is wrong in our lives and to “reboot” with the only One who can give us a truly fresh start, Jesus Christ. In this series, we’ll look at some of life’s most common regrets and then talk about how repentance can bring forgiveness, hope, and comfort in Christ. Here are just some of the areas we’ll explore in this series:

**Righteousness.** Have you ever heard someone openly share something they struggle with? Maybe it was an addiction, anger, pride, lust, envy, gossip, overeating, a disease, a death in the family, a work problem, etc.... When someone is transparent about a struggle in their life we listen; especially if we have the same struggle. In Romans chapter 7, the curtain is drawn and we peer through the window deep into the Apostle Paul’s



heart and mind as he struggles. He’s struggling with the yearning to be righteous, in right relationship with God, yet there is the recurring reality of sin in his life. You and I yearn for righteousness too. And while there is a certain amount of comfort and community in knowing that our struggle with sin is something that others go through, that’s not enough. If our struggle with sin would remain forever, ultimately that would lead us to despair, to cry out, *“What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me...?”* (Romans 7:24) In other words, “is there any way to reboot?” St. Paul answers his struggle and ours, *“Thanks be to God, who delivers me through Jesus Christ our Lord!”* (Romans 7:25).

**Peace:** God calls us to a life of peace, but that can be difficult in a world fraught with danger, conflict, chaos, distractions, and demands. Often we are driven to seek peace in possessions or within ourselves. This kind of peace is shallow, at best. God promises something better, God promises a reboot. He tells us to bring all our worries to Him, all our problems to Him, to place our faith in Him, and He will give us peace (Philippians 4:6-7). He calls us to repentance and graciously forgives our sins and looks upon us with acceptance and favor. God’s peace is rooted in a relationship with him. God’s peace sustains us through life’s challenges. God’s peace endures. *“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest,”* Jesus says. (Matthew 11:28).

*Continues on back page*

# GROWTH GROUPS

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 for a complete listing and information concerning our Growth Groups.

## TOPICAL GROUPS

### SUNDAY AM STUDY

Meets: Sunday mornings, 9:45am @ Redeemer by the Sea in the Fellowship Hall. This is a Sunday morning adult Bible study. Currently studying the book of Philippians. Childcare provided.

- Don Howard

### SUNDAY NIGHT GROUP

Meets: Sundays, 6:30-8 PM at the Voertman home. Topic is the book of Daniel.

- Jo Voertman

### MEN'S MORNING STUDY

Meets: Mondays, 7-8:30 am @ Coco's Restaurant in Carlsbad Village. Going through the book of Genesis.

- Don Howard

### SALT & LIGHT

Looking at the challenges with discussing Biblical truth, it almost seems impossible in today's humanistic culture. Traditional methods of evangelism are not working as effectively as they once did and saying "It's wrong because the Bible says so" will sometimes result in a blank stare, indifference, even mocking hostility. Ken Ham, a Christian educator who now runs the 'Answers in Genesis' organization, served as a school principal at various schools in Australia before moving to the US; he believes the problem is that compromising with the evolutionary world views has crippled Biblical preaching and teaching efforts. If evolution is true, the Bible is not true. I think this helps explain why it's increasingly difficult to communicate with this generation.

In Paul's letter to Corinth he makes the point that with a different belief system you either disagree, or do not accept the message at all. (1 Corinthians 1:23 "but we

preach Christ crucified, to the Jews a stumbling block and to the Greeks foolishness") Too many people in our Western culture today see Biblical teachings as foolishness.

At Salt & Light, the problem manifests itself, beginning with the smoke screen statement "Separation of Church and State". Our efforts are to make it clear that Biblical truth does not change and there are limits as to what the government can do. In the book 'A Summary of Christian Doctrine' by Edward Koehler first published in 1939, the idea is captured very clearly. "Although the government may allow what God forbids (same sex marriage) and forbid what God allows (Evangelizing at work), it may not command what God forbids (officiating a same sex wedding) and forbid what God commands (protect life - the unborn)."

We continue looking at ways for you to become engaged with Salt & Light and also to increase the visibility of our efforts, like offering a parent talk on Date Night, or coordinating a community information visit to Redeemer by the Mayor of Carlsbad. We are also looking at offering something on Sunday, to help reach those who are unable to attend our twice a month mid-week meetings. We will be providing educational material to the congregation, like a Planned Parenthood fact sheet we developed, and a voters' guide is on our agenda again for the 2018 election. As always, we will be stressing the Biblically important issues and the candidate's position on them. One member of our Salt & Light group suggested that while we individually are affiliated with one political party or another, we are first and foremost from the *Biblical Party*. We are political as far as speaking for the unborn, religious freedom and other Biblical teachings.

If you are curious about our group, all are welcome to join in. Currently we meet twice a month at 10:30 AM to noon on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Monday. You can contact me or Jerry Meyer for more information.

Your Salt & Light Co-Leader,  
- Dan Bitner

### MORE THAN MONEY MATTERS

Values based workshop, this group consists of only 2 sessions on Monday, October and Thursday, October. Topics will be how your values and goals go hand in hand, how to manage the pressures to spend so you can save, and different ways to plan (budget) how you use your money. Workbook and resource book included. Childcare provided upon request.

- Jess Reimnitz

# GROWTH GROUPS, *CONT.*

## LIFE JOURNAL & PRAYER

Using the Life Journal readings, this group works its way through the Bible in one year. Meeting in the Lounge at Redeemer on Wednesday mornings at 8 to 9:30 am. This group shares scripture from the weekly readings and prayer with each other.

- Pastor Augie

## WEDNESDAY LADIES GROUP

This fall we will be studying "Nehemiah" by Kelly Minter. Nehemiah's heart was so broken for those in need that he left the comfort of his Persian palace to help them. This study challenges women to let God break their hearts for a hurting, lost world and move them in compassion to lead people to Jesus. Nehemiah is a 7 week study that includes 7 video sessions and real-life ways to put feet to your faith. Are you ready to let God break your heart for a hurting, lost world and move you in compassion to be the hands and feet of Jesus? We will start on Sept 13th and finish November 11. The books will be \$15.00.

- Evelyn Meyer

## MEN'S MENTORING

This men's study is built around the "12 Characteristics of a Godly Life." They meet Wednesdays, 7-8:30pm at Redeemer by the Sea. It will equip you to live and share your faith. The focus of this class is upon following Jesus Christ – the One who is the perfect model for all of our lives.

- Tony Whitmarsh

## GRIEF GROUP

Grief support meets monthly. Our next meeting is on Thursday, September 21st, 1:30 P.M. at Norma Russell's home. Anyone who is grieving the loss of a loved one is encouraged to join with us. We have a special prayer time, discuss a chapter in our Book "Grieving With Hope" and then a time of sharing and caring. Contact Norma at 760-931-1947 for more information.

- Norma Russell

## THURSDAY STUDY

This group is studying the book of Proverbs and meets Thursdays from 2-3:30pm at the Meinardus' home.

- Don Howard

## THURSDAY AT RHONDA'S

This group meets twice a month on Thursdays from 6:30-8PM at Rhonda Sutherland's home. This group's study will be following the sermon series, Ctl-Alt-Del.

- Rhonda Sutherland

## FELLOWSHIP GROUPS

### BOWLING

Teams gather to join other teams for the GR8R times league at AMF Eagle Lanes in San Marcos on Monday evenings 6-8:30pm. The next league starts on October 30th.

- Dorothy Doughty

### EAT, MAKE, & PRAY

Join us on the 1st Tuesday of the month at 4PM @ Panera on Palomar Airport Road (Lowes area). Bring a portable handwork (knit, crochet, etc). We start with a devotion, share in prayer, and then fellowship as we enjoy our craft.

- Ellen Bitner

### THEATER

This group attends theatrical performances, concerts, tours and other artsy events. We invite the congregation to join us for any of the performances as well! Our meetings are on the 4th Tuesday every other month at 5:30pm at the Meinardus' home. Our next event is "Smoke on the Mountain" on October 15th at 2pm.

- Mary Ann Meinardus

### BIRTHDAY GROUP

We celebrated the birthdays of Bobbie and Jerry Ankenbrandt, Pastor Augie, Alice Lehmann, Gary Reiswig, Carolyn Schmaltz, Lois Taron, Dave Taylor, Ken Voertman and Gary Wilson at the Hunter Steak House in our own private little room. We are not a rowdy, boisterous bunch but when more than twenty of us are gathered in fellowship, the sound level does tend to rise. The food was delicious, especially the chocolate cake distributed to the birthday people, which they generously shared.

## GROWTH GROUPS, *CONT.*

After some serious contemplation, the September celebrants (Suzanne Hanthorn, Bettye and Don Howard) decided they would like to postpone their celebration and share with the October people. They will still become a year older right on schedule.

Everyone is welcome to join but you do need a reservation with the Birthday Coordinator, Jo Voertman, [jvbythesea@cox.net](mailto:jvbythesea@cox.net), 760-721-6674. In addition to your meal, we do request a one dollar contribution per celebrant which goes to a charity selected by the month's honorees..

- Jo Voertman

## BRIDGE GROUP

Seven members met at the home of Carolyn Schmaltz for Dessert and Bridge on August 25, 2017, and were undaunted with the fact one member was absent. Lois O'Donnell was making arrangements for the return of her husband Tom from Cedars-Sinai Medical Center. We keep Tom and Lois in our prayers.

Play continued and "Dummy" was on the move from table-to-table for the afternoon.

High Scorer for the day was Evelyn Meyer and George Ann Barnes placed Second.

Audrey Wickstrand will hostess September play on Friday, the 22nd, at 12:30. The bridge group meets on the 4th Friday of each month with the exception of November when we will meet on the 3rd Friday.

If you have an interest in playing bridge please contact me at 760-707-6677 or e-mail: [baconfaye3@gmail.com](mailto:baconfaye3@gmail.com). You will be placed on the substitute list and welcomed by fellow players.

We thank God for the fellowship we enjoy when we gather each month at member's homes.

- Faye Bacon  
Bridge Coordinator

## SEWING TOGETHER

This fellowship group gathers to encourage each other while getting those projects done! Bring your sewing machine and join us. It doesn't matter what kind of project - quilts, pillowcases, bags, dolls, walker bags, etc. We meet on the 2nd Saturday of

the month from 9 to noon. Hot iron, cutting mats and cutting tools are provided. And by the way, there is usually a light snack as well. We meet at Kay's home. Call or e-mail for more information. Kay: [Kay@redeemerbythesea.org](mailto:Kay@redeemerbythesea.org) or 817-929-2034.

- Kay Boland

## HOLY HACKERS

HOLY HACKERS - The golf lovers meet the 3rd Saturday of each month for an afternoon of golf. The format is a scramble format so all levels of expertise are welcome.....beginner to expert. It's all about meeting and establishing new friends. 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](mailto:di.haarmeyer@icloud.com) to be added to the email list. Come join us, we have a lot of fun!

- Di Haarmeyer

## SERVICE GROUPS

### BELL CHOIR

We have room for you in Redeemer by the Sea's beginning adult bell choir. We rehearse on Wednesday evenings from 6 to 7 in room 3. This group of ringers could use your help! We are currently ringing only 12 bells but we have 12 more. Imagine that glorious sound if all the bells could ring! In August we rang "I Am Trusting Thee Lord Jesus" and next month we will be ringing "Here I Am to Worship! We usually ring once a month, alternating between traditional and contemporary worship services. This is a beginning group so reading music is a plus, but experience is not required. Come on out and give it a try! Call Kay Boland 817-929-2034 for more information.

- Kay Boland

### CHOIR

Wednesdays at 6:30pm in the Sanctuary at Redeemer by the Sea we gather to practice choral pieces to sing on Sunday mornings. We enjoy a devotion before practice.

- Gary Wilson

# GROWTH GROUPS, *CONT.*

## 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 Thursday evenings from 6:30-8pm 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

## PRAISE TEAM

Thursdays at 7:30 pm in the sanctuary at Redeemer by the Sea, we gather to practice for the musical leadership for the 10:45am worship service.

- Joe Flatt

## OTHER GROUPS

## HIGH SCHOOL HUDDLE

Youth in grades 9-12 will gather on Sunday mornings at 9:45am in the lounge to dig deeper into the word together.

- Melanie Burkholder

## MONDAY MEDITATION

Come and pray in the Sanctuary on Mondays any time from 9-10am – come for a few minutes or stay for the hour! We will have recorded worship music, so bring your Bible and spend some time meditating on the Word

- Rachele Iadicicco

## MOMS IN PRAYER

Join us on the 1st Thursday of the month at the Starbucks inside Vons at La Costa Town Center. We meet at 8:30am to pray for our kids and schools.

- Elizabeth Denton

## MOPS

If you have a child in Kindergarten or younger, join us on the 1st and 3rd

Fridays from 9:15-11am for our Mothers of Preschoolers group! We will have food, fellowship, child care and more! Our first meeting will be on September 15th.

- Suzan Colgan



## SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Scott Liljegen	Sep 2	Dorothy Seboldt	Sep 25
Bettye Howard	Sep 3	Glenn Christensen	Sep 25
Elizabeth Denton	Sep 3	Valerie Lynch	Sep 25
Traci Brown	Sep 3	Mark Riendeau	Sep 25
Roger Teat	Sep 5	Rae Lee	Sep 25
Lori Batherson	Sep 10	Donald Howard	Sep 27
Peder Norby	Sep 10	Wayne Chapman	Sep 28
Tony Whitmarsh	Sep 14	Barbara Gehring	Sep 29
Tony Saign	Sep 15	Jim Heiser	Sep 29
Caleb Ambrose	Sep 17	Ralph Wenstone	Sep 30
Tessia Iadicicco	Sep 17	Mike Hong	Sep 30
Courtney Bustillos	Sep 18		
Sean McWhorter	Sep 18		
Jane Huang	Sep 23		
Christina Fugitt	Sep 23		

## SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Roger & Terra Teat	Sep 5
Jim & Karen Heiser	Sep 22
John & Faye Bacon	Sep 26
Ralph & Bonnie Elliott	Sep 26
Laura & Dave McFeaters	Sep 29
Michael & Suzanne VanDuker	Sep 29

# PARENTING CHRISTIAN KIDS: NURTURE POSITIVE FRIENDSHIPS

*"There is no greater love than to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command."* —John 15:13-14

For many children, a highlight of back-to-school season is reuniting with old friends and making new ones. Friends are vital to emotional and social development. Through friendships, kids learn to relate, respect, share, make decisions, and set boundaries. Having friends also boosts self-esteem by making children feel supported.

Unfortunately, peer conflicts, mistreatment, and even bullying occur even among young children. The National Education Association says 160,000 kids miss school each day because they're afraid of bullying, attacks, or intimidation. The example you set at home can help children develop kindness, love, and respect while maintaining a healthy sense of self.

**Show selfless love.** Help children make the connection between how Jesus loves and cares for us and how he wants us to love and care for one another. Make the Golden Rule a priority in your home (Matthew 7:12).

**Agree to disagree.** Children need to hear that it's okay to have different opinions; after all, God made us each different. But it's never okay to hurt or mock someone with words or actions.

## Know everyone matters.

Focus on activities and behavior standards that are positive, fun, and rewarding in order to help children find the acceptance and recognition they seek. Guiding kids toward loving themselves is key to helping them love other people.

As children grow and change, so do their friendships and interactions:

**Ages 2 to 4:** Young children depend on others to help them develop social skills. Schedule playdates and use praise to reinforce good behavior such as sharing. Help children refine their negotiation skills to resolve conflicts. Give them ideas about what to say to playmates.

**Ages 5 to 8:** Kids this age are learning to choose their friends. Their self-image is strongly related to other people's opinions of them. To help a bully, emphasize respect and model how to handle conflict without anger.

**Ages 9 to 12:** Parental authority diminishes, and kids want to be with their friends more. Discuss the qualities of a good friend and the down side of cliques and gangs.

- Your GROW Team

## ASK JESUS:

1. To guide your children into positive, productive friendships.
2. To show your family members how to love and befriend one another.
3. To give your kids the strength to stand up and speak out against bullying.

## COLLEGE SEND OFF

### SUNDAY, AUGUST 13TH

At both of our services on August 13th, we prayed for our college students as they return to Fall classes for another year of study. They received a \$20 Amazon gift card from the church to help them with their expenses and they shared where they are heading to!

8:30am  
Service



## DATE NIGHT

### FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13TH, 5-9PM

Date Night is a chance for parents to have an evening out on their own while their kids enjoy dinner, crafts, games and a movie.

After you have dropped off your children we'd like to invite you to join us in the sanctuary for a short video on the relationship between the church/ Christianity and society.

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

Email: [clareanddeclan@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:clareanddeclan@yahoo.co.uk)

- Clare Donovan

# JR. HIGH GLOWZONE

## SUNDAY, AUGUST 20TH

A great time was had by all as the 5th—8th grade students, friends and family headed to Glowzone in Vista. We have other fun events planned—so watch your email!



# SR. HIGH & COLLEGE

## DAVE & BUSTERS!

## SUNDAY, AUGUST 13TH

What better way to head into the school year than a fun evening out at Dave & Busters! Food, games and friends made for a great night!



# DISCOVERY CLASS

Redeemer by the Sea wants to help you walk closer with Jesus Christ. The four sessions of our Discovery Track offer the tools necessary to make this happen in your life. All the way from membership to life-changing ministry, we will lead you step-by-step from discovery to growth into a fulfilling ministry role. Enjoy a light lunch before each session. Held Sundays from Noon—1:30pm in the Fellowship Hall.

CHURCH  
101

**Church 101-** This session is an introduction to the ministry of Redeemer and will help you understand our core beliefs and what church membership is about. Offered the first Sunday of the month from Noon-1:30pm. *Next dates are 9/3 and 10/1*

ESSENTIALS  
201

**Essentials 201-** This session discusses prayer, small groups and Bible study, and provides the necessary tools every Christian needs to grow in their walk with Christ. Offered the second Sunday of the month from Noon-1:30pm. *Next date is 9/10*

DISCOVERY  
301

**Discovery 301-** We want to help you realize what makes you so unique. This session will help you discover your personality, gifts, and purpose in life and see how God combines them for the best fit in ministry. Offered the third Sunday of the month from Noon-1:30pm. *Next date is 10/15*

SERVE TEAM  
401

**Serve Team 401-** This final step of the discovery process gives you the opportunity to be informed about ministry projects and to get connected in specific ministry areas that interest you. It's easy, and fun!

# AMAZON SMILE DONATIONS

When you shop at Amazon.com, remember to go to smile.amazon.com—make Redeemer by the Sea your charitable organization and .5% of your purchase is donated to us!

**amazon smile**  
You shop. Amazon gives.

# SUNDAY SCHOOL

Rally Day was held on August 27th with a performance during the 10:30 service. The children entered the sanctuary wearing the "Armor of God", followed by singing and a narration of the meaning of each piece of armor. The festivities continued downstairs where we watched "David & Goliath" and learned how David put on the "Armor of God" by using the Shield of Faith to slay the giant. A fun day was had by all.

On September 3rd, children promote to the next Grade Levels as follows:

- Toddlers Classroom #1 (Nursery) • PreK-K Classroom #2 • Grade 1-2 Classroom #3 • Grade 3-4 Classroom #4 • Grades 5-6 Pre-Confirmation Class (details to follow). • Grades 7-8 Confirmation

We are currently looking at adding a "Kid's Church" at 9:45 a.m. in lieu of 8:30 a.m. Sunday School, so stay tuned for details as they become available.

Christmas is just around the corner and we are already making plans for the Children's Pageant on December 16th, so if you are interested in being a part of the team, please let me know.

Until next time,  
keep serving  
the Lord!

- Rhonda  
Sutherlin  
Sunday School  
Director





# NEW MEMBER WELCOME SUNDAY, AUGUST 27, 2017

## MICHAEL AND SUZANNE CROCKETT VANDUKER

Michael is from Oklahoma City, OK and has lived in California for 31 years. He has been in Carlsbad for 8 years with his wife Suzanne. His daughter lives in Portland and stepson Greg lives in



Oklahoma City. He enjoys being a grandfather. He was an electrician for 38 years. He enjoys being outdoors and active and loves to read.

Suzanne is from Pasadena, CA and has lived in Carlsbad for the last 8 years. She has always lived in CA except for 2 years in Houston, TX. She is married to Michael and is the mother of 4 children and has 8 grandchildren ages 21 to 5 years. She is a retired registered nurse. She loves cooking, entertaining, photography and traveling.

## RICH AND SARAH SHERWOOD

Rich and Sarah moved to Carlsbad from Springfield, VA and have been here for 1 month.

They met in Chicago several decades ago and their jobs moved them to VA in 1985 just outside DC. They are happily returning Sarah closer to family. They have a beautiful daughter and son who both live on the West Coast now.



## PRESCHOOL FIRST DAY!

### AUGUST 29 & 30, 2017

Welcoming parents and student to the school with some refreshments sponsored by Thrivent Financial!



# LWML IS 75!

## SEPTEMBER 12 AT 9:30AM

It's a Party!!! LWML Celebrates 75 years

September 12<sup>th</sup> at 9:30am we will celebrate 75 years of the Lutheran Women's Mission League. We have monthly speaker meetings and fellowship with RBTS women. Please look in the weekly bulletin for events. Mites are just one of our many missions. Please bring your mites to our meeting. Also ladies this month we are putting together a chocolate basket for our zone rally. Bring Chocolate!!!

### Mite Explanation and History

Based on the Biblical account of the widow's mite (Luke 21:1-4), the Mite Box is intended for regular contributions of "mites" — offerings above and beyond the support given to congregations and the LCMS. Mite Box contributions amount to millions of dollars that fund district and national mission grants and implement the LWML program. For a full list see LWML bulletin board downstairs.

*The Widow's Mite: Jesus sat down opposite the place where the offerings were put and watched the crowd putting their money into the temple treasury. Many rich people threw in large amounts. But a poor widow came and put in two very small copper coins, worth only a fraction of a penny. Calling his disciples to him, Jesus said, "I tell you the truth, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. They all gave out of their wealth, but she, out of her poverty, put in everything — all she had to live on" (Mark 12:41-43).*

### Mite Boxes — How They Began

Box if she participated in the Ladies Aid. Receipts from the 92 Ladies Aid societies totaled \$6651.31 in 1930. Perhaps inspired by the various "cent" or "mite" societies of the early 1800s, the Woman's Mission to Woman (Baptist) urged members in its first circular letter in 1871 to use their new Mite Box to raise funds. The entire family was encouraged to contribute.

Over the years, many Lutheran Ladies Aid societies used a box to gather funds in support of local and synod ministries. Under the original 1928 Lutheran Women's Missionary Endeavor organizational plan, each woman in every congregation would receive a Mite box.

The Lutheran Women's Missionary League, formally recognized by the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod in 1942, required by the newly adopted constitution and



bylaws, that 25% of all missionary contributions be given to the national organization, shared from the districts.

At the 1953 convention, delegates reaffirmed the policy of raising funds only through voluntary offerings. Instead of "mite boxes" some societies called their ingathering devices "blessing boxes" or "mission boxes" or "thank offering boxes." The first Mite

Box design had space for districts to imprint local messages. In publications and speeches, Leaguers were reminded not to just tuck their Mite Box away out of sight and then on the day of the meeting take out a dollar bill, put it in an envelope and hand it to the secretary. Among the suggestions offered were:

Put your pennies in the box at the end of each day

Say "thank you" with an appropriate amount whenever calamity or misfortune has been averted

Empty all your loose change from your kitchen coin bowl into the box on meeting day

Throughout the decades, Lutheran women have stepped out in faith, setting goals and trusting God to move the hearts of His people to give generously to LWML to proclaim the Gospel.

### Times and Mite Boxes Change

Mite Boxes have changed in color and design over the years, but what has never changed is the dedication of freely given offerings for the purpose of reaching out to others with the Good News of Jesus Christ. Districts still retain 75% of mite offerings for the work of the LWML at that level. National mites fund over \$1 million in mission grants.

RBTS mite boxes are located in the lobby, please pick one up, fill it and put it back into the wooden box in the lobby.

- Barbara Gehring

## NEW WORSHIP TIME

8:30 am Traditional Worship

9:45 am Enrichment Time (5th grade-Adult)

10:45 am Contemporary Worship

# STEWARDSHIP

*“Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might” Ecclesiastes 9:10*

God bids us to be faithful in the tasks He calls us to do. He calls us to be members of a family (husbands and wives; fathers and mothers; sons and daughters). He calls us to be members of society (those who govern and those who are governed). And He calls us to be members of His family, the Church (those who preach and teach and those who hear and learn). Each of these callings from God places a duty on us.

As members of a family, husbands are given the duty to die for their wives as Christ gave His life for His bride, the Church; while wives are given the duty to respect their husbands and submit themselves to them as the Church does to Christ. Fathers and mothers are to raise their children in the fear and admonition of the Lord, teaching them the Ten Commandments, the Creed, the Lord’s Prayer, and the Scriptures concerning Baptism, Confession, the Office of the Keys, and the Lord’s Supper. Children are to honor their parents throughout their lives, and even when their parents are no longer alive, serving and obeying them, loving and cherishing them, and speaking well of them.

As members of society, God calls those who govern to bear the sword, that is, to punish those who do evil—those who live contrary to God’s will—and to reward those who do good—those whose lives are lived in conformity with God’s will. Those who are governed are to obey their leaders as to the Lord Himself, for their leaders bear the sword of God’s temporal justice for a purpose.

As members of God’s own family, the Church, He calls those who preach and teach to do so in faithfulness to His holy Word. To preach and teach the Law of God to convict the hearts of hearers of their sin and to encourage, admonish, and exhort them to do good works in accordance with God’s will. They are to preach and teach the Gospel, the full forgiveness of their sins accomplished by Christ and received through faith, not by works. They are to administer the means of grace in accordance with the Gospel and the Word of God. They do all this for the young and old alike, for those who are near and far off. Those who hear and learn are to submit themselves to their preachers and teachers. They are to support them by their prayers and their gifts.

*Continues in next column*



**At least 161** LCMS congregations are in the areas affected by Hurricane Harvey and the floods. The Synod stands with those in need through prayer and support.

“For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this: that one has died for all” (2 cor. 5:14). The love of Christ compels us to love everyone. Love flows from the cross in service to those in need, just as Christ came in the flesh to save.

You can help those suffering from the effects of the storm and the floodwaters. LCMS World Relief and Human Care, through Disaster Response, is working with the Texas District to support relief efforts and to aid those in need.

## To Give:

- **Online** — Visit [lcms.org/harvey](http://lcms.org/harvey).
- **By text** — Text “LCMSHARVEY” to 41444.
- **Over the phone** — Call the LCMS toll-free gift line between 8 a.m. and 4:10 p.m. Central time at 888-930-4438 or the LCMS Church Information Center at 888-843-5267.
- **By mail** — Make checks payable to “The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod” (or “LCMS”). On the memo line, write “Disaster Response/Relief,” and mail to the LCMS, P.O. Box 66961, St. Louis, MO, 63166-6861. Gifts also can be designated specifically for Hurricane Harvey and/or affected areas by stipulating in the memo line.

Gifts are tax-deductible as allowed by law. Additional information about our LCMS response, and the impact your gifts are having, will be available over the weeks and months ahead at [lcms.org](http://lcms.org), on the Synod’s social media outlets, and in our official periodicals and publications.

## Prayer:

Lord of heaven and earth, we know that You hold all things in Your hands. In Your mercy, provide for the needs of those who have been affected by Hurricane Harvey and the rain that continues to fall, work through those who bring relief and aid, and protect all from any further harm. Draw all to the cross of Christ, who is our salvation now and always. We ask this in Jesus’ name. Amen.

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Each of these callings from God places a duty on us. They make a claim on our presence, our prayers, and on our time, talents, and treasures. So, “Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might” (Eccl 9:10). Pray for your family, for your government, and your church. Give of yourself by means of your time, your talents, and your treasures to your family, your government, and your Church. That is what it means to be faithful in the tasks that God has given us. That is what it means to do it with all your might.

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# Ctrl+Alt+Del, *CONT. FROM PAGE 1*

**Desires:** A child throws a tantrum. A woman shoplifts. A son steals money from his dad's wallet. A spouse commits adultery. Why? They all want something they cannot have. Adam and Eve also desired something they couldn't have. This first couple was put in charge of God's perfect creation. But Satan, wanting to steal their allegiance away from God, had to defame God's character. Satan is crafty, clever, and the master of deception. Martin Luther said of him: "On earth is not his equal." With the question "Did God really say...?" Satan planted doubt in Eve's heart, directing her attention to the only tree in Eden prohibited by God. For Eve, that one tree became her desire. The problem with desire is that there is always something that we want and do not have. Satan deceptively asks each one of us: "If God really loves you why doesn't He give you what you want?"

**Love:** All of us go through times where we make mistakes or are unlovable. Many times when we mess up, we have the hardest time forgiving ourselves. We continually replay the situation and think of all the ways we should have/could have handled it differently. Satan uses these "if only's" to cause us to doubt ourselves and "prove" to us how unworthy we are. But God, on the other hand, often reminds us of His goodness and grace. We mess up and need a Savior (Romans 3:23-24). We need a reboot. In Isaiah 43, we clearly see that Yahweh has "redeemed you." He stated, "You are mine" and "Do not be afraid, I am with you." Rather than beating ourselves up over what

we have done wrong, we are to remember the promise that we are redeemed and He is with us.

As we go through this series over the next few months, may you and I learn to turn to God with our regrets. With repentance in our hearts, may we be freed from whatever is behind us that has us stuck ... and allow God to "Reboot" our lives and receive new life in Him. Truly there is no regret He cannot restore, and nothing broken that He cannot rebuild. Just like the buttons Ctrl+Alt+Del on a computer allow us to start fresh, so too does the forgiveness that we receive in the Father+Son+HolySpirit allow us to reboot our lives!

Refreshed & Renewed in Christ,  
Pastor Augie



Thanks to Rev. Dr. Michael Hayes for providing materials used in this article and series.

## WHO ARE YOUR ELDERS?

Otis Haarmeyer

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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

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