

Redeemer news

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF REDEEMER BY THE SEA – JULY 2016 – VOLUME 4 ISSUE 7

A GLIMPSE OF THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN

Wouldn't you like to know what the kingdom of heaven looks like? Jesus knows that the Kingdom of Heaven is not of this world, so He gives us glimpses into His Kingdom every time He teaches using a parable. This month at Redeemer by the Sea, during our *"God on Film"* sermon series we will be looking at a number of the Parables of Jesus, and asking some key questions.

July 3 - The Parable of the Sower: *"What is the Kingdom of Heaven like?"*

July 10 - The Parable of the Wheat and the Tares: *"Who will escape judgment?"*

July 17 - The Parable of the Mustard Seed: *"Can faith move mountains?"*

July 24 - The Parable of the Laborers in the Vineyard: *"What to do when life's unfair"*

July 31 - The Friend at Midnight: *"How to pray effectively"*

In a wide sense every parable of Jesus illustrated the peculiarity of the Kingdom of Heaven in one way or another. However, in many of them He

indicated that the parable explicitly taught something about the nature of the Kingdom, using the phrase, *"The Kingdom of Heaven is like..."* (see Matthew 13:24, 13:31, 13:33, 13:44, 13:45, 13:47, 13:52, 18:23, 20:1, 22:2)

What *is* the Kingdom of Heaven like? What's special about it? Well for one thing God's Kingdom is not some geographical area surrounded by physical boundaries, as are the kingdoms of the world. Rather it is an abstract idea expressing the entire reign or dominion of the King, Jesus. Therefore the Kingdom of Heaven is really wherever Jesus reigns in authority. It is not a physical Kingdom ... but a spiritual one. Jesus attested to this fact as He testified before Pilate in John chapter 18. And Jesus' subjects (His faithful people) are different than the

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VBS CLOSING & ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Come and celebrate our Vacation Bible School on Sunday, July 10 as children share what they learned and sing at the 10:30 service. An ice cream social will be held afterwards on the patio to greet our VBS families. - Jeff Moeller



FAMILY MINISTRY CORNER

And endurance produces character and character produces hope. 1 Corinthians 5:4

The overwhelming task of parents is to build character in their children. A child's character determines the course of their lives. It is easy and natural for parents to manage the moment. This is such a challenging and critical task, as parents we need to begin with the end in mind. What vision of your children do you have? What is the content of their character as an adult? To develop a child of good character, we have to be parents of good character. We must first nurture that good character in ourselves. Children are not replicas of their parents but

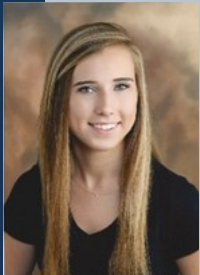
are individuals who are incredibly influenced by the love, behaviors, disciplines and words of their mother and father. Understanding that the significant task of parents is to nurture good character in their children, we are a step closer to accomplishing that goal.

In Christ,

Jeff Moeller, DCE

Family Ministry Director

GOD'S RICHEST BLESSINGS TO OUR GRADUATES!



Tori Hemphill graduated from Sante Fe Christian School. Will be attending California Polytechnic State University in San Luis Obispo, studying entrepreneurship this fall.

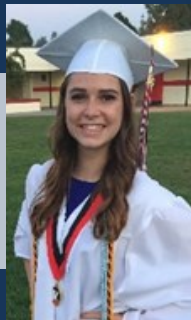
Mitch Batherson graduated from El Camino High School. Will be attending UC San Diego, studying Aerospace Engineering this fall.



Rachel Moeller graduated from Carlsbad High School. Will be attending Concordia University, Irvine studying to be a Director of Christian Education.



Amelia Rutan graduated from Vista High School She will be attending University of California, Davis studying aerospace engineering this fall.



Luke Whitmarsh graduated California Polytechnic University in San Luis Obispo, CA with a degree in Aerospace Engineering. He is pursuing a career in the Aerospace Industry.



Adam Whitmarsh graduated California Polytechnic University (San Luis Obispo, CA with a degree in Aerospace Engineering. He will be working at Lockheed Martin SkunkWorks in Palmdale starting in July.



SALT & LIGHT

Why Vote? When Christians stay out of the picture, who do you think gets elected? Not people who share our beliefs, that's for sure! A good example is a California bill currently under consideration:

(SB-1146 Postsecondary education: nondiscrimination) As currently written, this bill would significantly challenge Concordia University Irvine's—and all Christian colleges and universities in California—ability to continue offering a Christ-centered education to our students. The most troubling provision of this bill limits the religious liberty to integrate faith and learning throughout the educational experience. The bill effectively eliminates the religious exemption under current law that allows Christian colleges and universities to operate in accordance with their beliefs, including the freedom to hire only Christian faculty and staff. If passed without amendments, the new law would also very likely disqualify students attending California Christian colleges and universities from eligibility for Cal Grants, a key state-level student aid program.

Our Salt & Light group continues to make the case that we as Christians **DO** have a role in the public arena and the above legislation is a prime example why that is. As of this writing there has been no attempt to amend this bill to exempt religious colleges and that should not be the case. We need to elect Representatives that share our beliefs.

The simple goal of Salt & Light is to convince all Christians that they have a responsibility to understand the important issues unfolding in front of us and then, just as important, know where the person you plan to vote for stands on those issues. For the recent Primary election we provided non-partisan voter guide information and while it was not as complete as we would have liked it was a first step. We will continue to research Candidates / Representatives positions on the important issues and will be providing that

to you in support of your voting efforts.

Did you know that in 1954, the U.S. Congress amended (*without debate or analysis*) IRS Code §501(c)(3) to restrict the speech of non-profit, tax-exempt entities—including churches. Before the amendment passed, there were no restrictions on church speech concerning government and voting, with the exception of a 1934 law preventing non-profits from using a *substantial* part of their resources to lobby for legislation.

The 1954 amendment, was offered by then-Senator Lyndon Johnson (*who was in a close political race*) stated that non-profit tax-exempt entities could not “participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distributing of statements), any political campaign on behalf of or in opposition to any candidate for public office.” This change in the IRS code was passed without debate; with the right Representatives in office, it could be removed the same way.

- Dan Bitner

GRIEF GROUP

Thursday, July 21st. 1:30 P.M. our Grief Support Group will meet in the Fellowship Hall. We will be reviewing Chapter 2 of our new book "Finding Comfort As You Journey Through Loss". I invite you to join us to receive as well as give strength and comfort. Norma Russell

HOLY HACKERS

Holy Hackers will be meeting on Saturday, July 16, with first tee time starting at 11:30 PM. We are playing at St. Marks Golf Club in San Marcus and cost is \$49 including cart/range balls. Deadline for signing up is Monday, July 11. Contact Di Haarmeyer at di.haarmeyer@icloud.com to register.

CAVE QUEST VBS

Over 160 children registered for VBS this year and over 130 attended each day, learning about Jesus as the Light of the World! Through our Cave Quest stations like Cavern Café and Imagination Station these children learned that Jesus gives us hope, courage, direction, love, power and life. Thank you for your support and the over 60 volunteers who put it all together.

- Jeff Moeller



FELLOWSHIP

Your Fellowship Committee has been busy! We are all involved with Vacation Bible School – two of us are leading stations and the other two are supporting leaders. It is such a blessing to see all the children and to teach them about Jesus! We pray God continues to bless all of our efforts.

Many, many thanks to all the people who helped with Spirit Awareness Dinner! Joyce Moyer (new volunteer) was our main cook – she really stepped up and made sure that everything was ready on time for serving. Many thanks to the other helpers as well – Lisa Menante, Rachelle Iadicicco, Hilda Kalaidjian, Wayne Chapman, Karen Krause, Ellen Bitner, Barbara Gehring and Rhonda Sutherland. If I missed your name, I apologize. The dinner came off

flawlessly and was greatly enjoyed by everyone.

Don't forget our Church Picnic on 8/28/16 at Aviara Community Park. We're planning to change things up a little this year so stay tuned for more details next month. This is a great opportunity to bring your whole family out for an afternoon of food, games and fellowship! Invite your friends – all are welcome. Don't forget to sign up on the connection card when the time comes!

Last but not least, mark your calendars for our annual Christmas Dinner on 12/3/16. We will be gathering at the beautiful home of Otis and Di Haarmeyer.

We're looking for some new folks to join our Fellowship Committee. If you have a heart for service, enjoy planning parties, or just like interacting with others please let me know!

God Bless, Dorothy Doughty, Fellowship Chairman

PRAYER GUIDE FOR THE LCMS NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING

This Prayer Guide provides a little but significant opportunity for you to share in the experiences of the youth gathering and contribute spiritual support for what the Holy Spirit will be doing in the faith lives of our youth and the 25,000 other participants.



Day 1: Friday, July 15. Today our group and their families travel to San Diego to catch a Southwest flight to New Orleans.

We will be excited about this new adventure. We will explore our hotel and surrounding area, just to get our bearings. We hold our first family group and prayer partner meetings. Pray for our safety and for a commitment to each other.

Day 2: Saturday, July 16. Our first full day. We will register, continue our explorations and try to get good seats for the opening service at the Superdome. *Joy in Christ Alone* is tonight's focus. We will explore the joy Paul found in the cross of Christ, Pray for our family group leaders, Angela Cyphers, Joe Flatt and Jeff Moeller.

Day 3: Sunday, July 17. Our focus to day is *Identity in Christ Alone*. Through music, art and drama we will discover what it means to find our identity in Christ. We will also serve the community of New Orleans in a service project somewhere in the city. Pray for Natalie Alidio, Mitch Batherson and Phil Carmack for their spiritual growth.

Day 4: Monday, July 18. On this day we will focus on Humility in Christ Alone. We will learn that Jesus is the true embodiment of humility and Paul calls us to echo that humility. Each night at our Family Group Bible study and a prayer partner time, we reflect on the days events. We are acknowledging how we have grown. Please pray for the faith journey of Laura Cyphers, Tessia Iadicicco and Emy Kiernan.

Day 5: Tuesday, July 19. The gathering focuses on *Community in Christ Alone*. The church is the place in which we practice and receive grace with one another. Life is different because our connectedness in Christ. Pray for God's calling to Kyle Lynaugh and Natalie Moeller.

Day 6: Wednesday, July 20. Our Gathering experience culminates and ends where our humble Savior serves us in Word and Sacrament. In worship, we hear of our identity as forgiven sinners and righteous saints in Christ. Pray for the continued presence of Christ in the lives of Rachel Moeller and Jeremy Richey.

Day 7: Thursday, July 21. Pray for our safe travel home and for happy reunions. Pray for a stronger connection to the part of the Body of Christ we call Redeemer by the Sea. We are blessed to have Redeemer as our church home. Please also pray for our ministry to young people.

- Jeff Moeller

7 HABITS OF A HIGHLY EFFECTIVE STEWARD

Habit 2: Trust God to Provide

Trust is a foundational concept for practicing stewardship. This may be one of the most difficult habits of all to develop. For many of us, it's easier to trust God for our eternal salvation than it is to trust him for our daily living. When it comes to practical things like putting food on our table or making the mortgage payment, we operate as if we are on our own. As a result we often worry and experience anxiety.

Fear is the result of our inability to trust God in all aspects of our lives. This actually causes some of us to stockpile assets beyond all reason. Others worry about every possibility of loss, including health issues, layoffs and economic collapse. There's a big difference between constructive planning – and destructive worry. There is no reason

for us to be bound by fear. We need to put our trust in God and to commit both our faith and our finances to Him.

“Instruct those who are rich in this present world not. . .to fix their hope on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly supplies us with all things to enjoy” (1 Timothy 6:17). Even though our culture tempts us to believe that accumulation brings happiness, as Christians we need to focus on trusting God. He has much to give us of far greater value than anything we can ever purchase or accumulate.

Trusting God to provide also means operating on His timetable and not our own. This is extremely difficult in many situations. We tend to want our needs met immediately. If this were always the case, there would be no opportunity for us to strengthen our faith – to believe and trust that our needs will be met according to God's plan. These opportunities help to teach us patience and reliance on God.

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REDEEMER SERVES

This fourth we have much to be thankful for.



God has richly blessed our nation. The character of a person is not always understood by their successes but so often their failings. President Lincoln's life is a good example of this.

Water Leverette, a friend and retired Naval Chaplain, recently sent me the following outline on President Lincoln's life.

Abraham Lincoln Didn't Quit.

Born into poverty, Lincoln was faced with defeat throughout his life. He lost eight elections, twice failed in business and suffered a nervous breakdown. He could have quit many times - but he didn't and because he didn't quit, he became one of the greatest presidents in the history of our country.

Lincoln was a champion and he never gave up. Here is a sketch of Lincoln's road to the White House:

- .1816 His family was forced out of their home. He had to work to support them.
- .1818 His mother died.
- .1831 Failed in business.
- .1832 Ran for state legislature - lost.
- .1832 Also lost his job - wanted to go to law school but couldn't get in.
- .1833 Borrowed some money from a friend to begin a business and by the end of the year he was bankrupt. He spent the next 17 years of his life paying off this debt.
- .1834 Ran for state legislature again - won.
- .1835 Was engaged to be married, sweetheart died and his heart was broken.
- .1836 Had a total nervous breakdown and was in bed for six months.
- .1838 Sought to become speaker of the state legislature - defeated.
- .1840 Sought to become elector - defeated.
- .1843 Ran for Congress - lost.
- .1846 Ran for Congress again - this time he won - went to Washington and did a good job.
- .1848 Ran for re-election to Congress - lost.

.1849 Sought the job of land officer in his home state - rejected.

.1854 Ran for Senate of the United States - lost.

.1856 Sought the Vice-Presidential nomination at his party's national convention - get less than 100 votes.

.1858 Ran for U.S. Senate again - again he lost.

.1860 Elected president of the United States.

What is the take away? Lincoln had a heart to serve others, to serve the nation for the greater good. In spite of the trials and difficulty he rose to the occasion to save the Republic. God called him out of the ages. We too have been called out of the ages in Christ Jesus to offer hope to a hurting world.

Offering an invitation to a person to know Jesus as their Lord and Savior is a high calling . Providing kind words to those in need, praying for the afflicted, and severing others is like a balm in Gilead . The ways in which we can serve others is limitless. Redeemer Serves is a great opportunity to get involved in helping others in the surrounding communities. On the Redeemer By The Sea webpage, click on Redeemer Serves and enter your time. The time will be added to our Church goal of 4,000 hours for 2016.

Victory in Christ.

Kindest regards,

Dave Taylor

BIRTHDAY CELEBRANTS

July must have been a good month to have children because we have nine birthdays to celebrate and they belong to Bobbie and Jerry Ankenbrandt, Jim Brunner, BJ Lahr, Lois O'Donnell, Lois Palmer, Patricia Sax and Marie and Earl Voien. We will celebrate these rubies (July birthstone) on THURSDAY, July 28 at 11:30 a.m. at Mimi's Café, 2177 Vista Way in Oceanside (Wal-Mart shopping center) Lunches run from eight (\$8) to sixteen (\$16) dollars

In addition to your lunch, we request a contribution of one dollar per celebrant which will go to Saint Jude's Children's Research Hospital.

Everyone is welcome to join us but reservations are needed. To make yours, contact Jo Voertman, 1-760 - 721-6674, jvbythesea@cox.net.

JULY BIRTHDAYS

Doris Springer	Jul 1
Shelley Lynaugh	Jul 1
BJ Lahr	Jul 2
Luann Goedert	Jul 3
Ed Meinardus	Jul 5
Lois O'Donnell	Jul 5
Lois Palmer	Jul 6
Gene Overway	Jul 6
Robin Zale	Jul 6
Brian Frost	Jul 7
Marie Voien	Jul 7
Janet Woods	Jul 8
Blake Bolton	Jul 9
Hayes Hemphill	Jul 9
Mary Ann Meinardus	Jul 10
Liam Iadicicco	Jul 16
Natalie Moeller	Jul 16
Pam Sandow	Jul 17
Kathy Ferrell	Jul 17
Chris Shourds	Jul 17
Jordan Redl	Jul 20
Don Winslow	Jul 20
Rhonda Sutherlin	Jul 24
Arthur Bunke	Jul 25
Patricia Sax	Jul 25
Amelia Rutan	Jul 26
Earl Voien	Jul 27
Allison Liljegren	Jul 28
Jake Mancini	Jul 29
Michael Cobos	Jul 30
Daniel Oplinger	Jul 31
Lisa Menante	Jul 31

JULY ANNIVERSARIES

Robert & Shirley Hawley	Jul 6
David & Elizabeth Taylor	Jul 6
Earl & Marie Voien	Jul 16
Ralph & Kathy Hemphill	Jul 16
Blake & Gretchen Bolton	Jul 22
Scott & Allison Liljegren	Jul 24
John & Monique Russell	Jul 25
Ed & Mary Ann Meinardus	Jul 29

LWML

SAVE THE DATE

LWML Sept 13th meeting

We will be resuming our monthly Women's meeting.

Exciting news! Our own Melanie Burkholder will speak on her experience of being as a Secret Service agent in Los Angeles.

We are inviting men and women to come listen to her fascinating past.

- Barbara Gehring

BRIDGE

Players, at two tables of bridge, met at the home of Faye Bacon on May 27th, and it's always fun to name the winners for the day: High Scorer Bobbie Ankenbrandt and Alice Lehmann, second place. Dessert was served at 12:30 and as usual play followed. This group meets on the 4th Friday of each month with the exception of November when we meet on the 3rd Friday. We play from one to four and enjoy gathering in fellowship and striving to play better bridge! It is especially good when one has lots of face cards, bids slam and makes it!

June 24th was an interesting day for the bridge players who met at Alice Lehmann's home for dessert at 12:30, followed by play with seven players. The Bridge Coordinator was absent so 'Roving-Dummy-Player' stepped up to the plate, took on the challenge. Word is out that there were humorous times and hilarity as bidding progressed throughout the afternoon. High Scorer was Alice Lehmann, 'Roving-Dummy-Player' came in second; by default Audrey Wickstrand moved into second High Scorer position!

If you are interested in joining this group please call Faye Bacon at 760-707-6677 or e-mail fobacon@att.net. We have a Substitute List and I will be happy to include you on the list.

Next play will be at Lois O'Donnell's home on July 22nd.

See you in church, in the meantime, and thanking God for all the times we share in fellowship with one another.

—Faye Bacon

A GLIMPSE OF THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN, *CONT. FROM FRONT PAGE*

subjects of any earthly kingdom too ... operating out of love and faith, rather than fear or compulsion.

Why did Jesus teach in parables? For that we might consider what the word “parable” itself means.

According to *Vine's Expository Dictionary of New Testament Words* it signifies the “placing of one thing beside another with a view to comparison.” In other words, a parable puts the known next to the unknown so that we might learn about the unknown in terms we can relate to. Another reason that Jesus taught in parables was because in so doing Jesus effectively separated the truth-seekers from the curiosity-seekers. Someone who was just looking for Jesus to do miracles and give them food wasn't going to be looking for the deeper truths of the Kingdom that a parable revealed.

In the Parables we can see several **sub-themes emerge**. As Jesus taught about the Kingdom of Heaven, He also, by extension and comparison, taught about the King and the King's subjects as well. So for example, the Parable of the Mustard Seed and the Parable of the Hidden Treasure



indicate something about the character of the Kingdom. But the Parable of the Workers in the Vineyard teaches something very important about the character of *The King Himself* – particularly His overflowing generosity. And a parable like the Good Samaritan teaches about the character of The

King's *subjects* – they demonstrate the generosity of the King here on earth. Clearly, there is much to learn about the Kingdom of God in Jesus' parables.

I'm looking forward to spending the first part of our summer enjoying some fun movies which are a testimony to the creativity and talent of humans. But I'm even more looking forward to using those movies as a springboard to delve into the Scriptures through the Parables of Jesus, which are a testimony to the very special nature of God's Kingdom. I pray that your summer is both a refreshing time and a growing time for you. We hope you'll join us as together we **Worship, Grow and Serve** together at Redeemer by the Sea!

A subject of the King,
Pastor Augie



WHO CAN I CONTACT?

Pastor, Rev. Augie Iadicicco
pastor@redeemerbythesea.org, (760) 431-8990

Family Ministry Director, Jeff Moeller
jeff@redeemerbythesea.org, (760) 431-8990

Office Manager, Rachelle Iadicicco
om@redeemerbythesea.org, (760) 431-8990

Preschool Director, Cindy Brown
cindy@redeemerbythesea.org, (760) 431-8293

Church Council President, Dan Bitner
president@redeemerbythesea.org, (760) 729-2682

Trustees, Rocky Collins
rockycollins@msn.com, (760) 438-1142

WHO ARE YOUR ELDERS?

Otis Haarmeyer
o.haarmeyer@gmail.com 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: Charles Um, Otis Haarmeyer, Ken Swick, Dave Berrier, Jim Brunner, Carl Gehring, Lyle Meyer, Wayne Chapman, Jerry Meyer, and Tom Burke