

# Redeemer *news*

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF REDEEMER BY THE SEA LUTHERAN CHURCH | MARCH 2018 – VOLUME 6 ISSUE 3

## STONES CRY OUT...

*[Jesus] answered, "I tell you, if these were silent, the very stones would cry out."  
(Luke 19:40)*

Unfortunately, I spent the bulk of February in Buffalo, New York with my mom who is suffering from complications from a relatively straightforward surgery that went wrong. She's 83 and a strong-willed woman with great faith. It's those things that have enabled her to endure almost a month of being confined to bed in a hospital with tubes and wires vexing her body; and she has handled this with grace and patience. In so doing however, she's witnessed to our family (near and extended) as well as a boatload of caregivers, doctors and custodial workers, that even when we're down, Christians cry out to God. And we don't just cry out in our need, we cry out in praise!

Family, friends and hospital workers have witnessed groups of loved ones



circled around my mom in prayer multiple times a day – not just keeping vigil over my mom – but praying *with* her. And they have seen her holding hands and making the sign of the cross after every prayer. She cannot speak because of breathing tubes and ventilators obstructing her vocal cords ... but she has done everything within her power to witness to God's unfailing love,

*Continues on back page*

## *Celebrate* EASTER

**Palm Sunday, March 25**

8:30am Traditional Service

10:45am Contemporary

**Maundy Thursday,  
March 29**

6:30pm - Worship with Holy  
Communion

**Good Friday, March 30**

6:30pm - A Service of  
Penitence and Remembrance

**Easter Sunday, April 1**

8am - Traditional Service

9:30am - Blended Service

11am - Contemporary Service



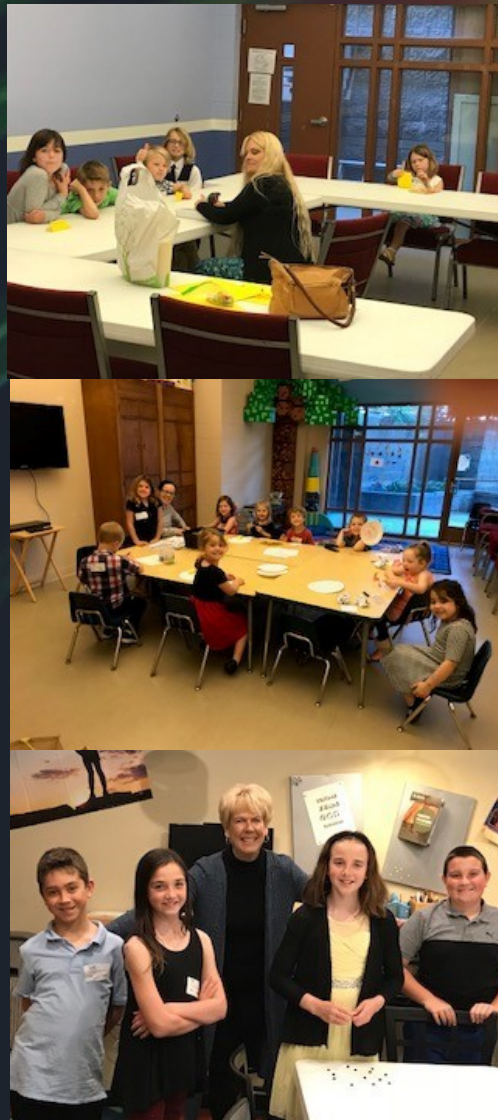
# SUNDAY SCHOOL

Easter is right around the corner and to celebrate we are planning an interactive event "The Great Surprise – Jesus is Alive" that will be fun for everyone! The children will experience this joyous occasion through a series of stations where they will learn that Jesus is Alive!

The stations include:

- Fantastic Flotation
- Confounding Creation
- Marvelous Mirascope
- Amazing Animation
- Extraordinary Energy
- Fantabulous Fotos
- Surprising Snacks

So, spread the word to family and friends to join us at 9:30 and 11am!!



The annual trip to The Summit held at Crean Lutheran High School for the 4th, 5th and 6th Graders is right around the corner. This year the event called "Unshaken", will be held on April 14th and based on Psalm 62:6 – "He alone is my rock and my salvation; he is my fortress, I will not be shaken." The Summit is filled with active learning, fun, meaningful games and activities, singing, as well as service opportunities. Early Registration is now open until March 10th – see me for details and/or to register.

If you are interested in helping out with Sunday Check-In, being a teacher in the Sunday School, decorating for our special events, snack preparation, etc., please contact me at:  
[rhonda@redeemerbythesea.org](mailto:rhonda@redeemerbythesea.org).  
Until next time, keep serving the Lord!

- Rhonda Sutherlin  
Sunday School Director

## WHO ARE YOUR ELDERS?

**Head Elder, Jerry Meyer**  
[elders@redeemerbythesea.org](mailto:elders@redeemerbythesea.org)  
(760) 729-0360

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, Dan Bitner, Ed Meinardus, Jerry Meyer, Lyle Meyer, Joel Rabe, Ralph Wenstone, Charles Um

## WHO CAN I CONTACT?

**Pastor, Rev. Augie Iadicicco**  
[pastor@redeemerbythesea.org](mailto:pastor@redeemerbythesea.org), (760) 431-8990

**Office Manager, Rachelle Iadicicco**  
[om@redeemerbythesea.org](mailto:om@redeemerbythesea.org), (760) 431-8990

**Preschool, Darjené Graham-Perez**  
[missdee@redeemerbythesea.org](mailto:missdee@redeemerbythesea.org), (760) 431-8293

**Church Council President, Kris Urdahl**  
[president@redeemerbythesea.org](mailto:president@redeemerbythesea.org), (562) 673-7346

**Trustees, Shawn Burkholder**  
[trustees@redeemerbythesea.org](mailto:trustees@redeemerbythesea.org), (307) 690-7814

**Prayer, Jo Brandt**  
[prayer@redeemerbythesea.org](mailto:prayer@redeemerbythesea.org), (760) 729-0112

Get a fresh start financially this year. For those unexpected expenses in life, open an emergency fund that also helps ministries share the Good News. Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF) can help you build financial security while helping build God's kingdom through The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod ministries. LCEF's Family Emergency StewardAccount® is designed to prepare you for those moments when you need funds not allocated in your monthly budget. 1.0% Interest Rate (Jan. 2017) Your investment builds over time with electronic funds transfer (EFT) and interest earned. Access funds easily when you need them most. For complete details, visit [lcef.org](http://lcef.org) or call 800-843-5233, or contact Paul Lahr, congregational representative.

## SAVING MONEY WHILE TEACHING CHILDREN

The Young Investors (Y.I.) Club makes saving money fun while teaching children to give thanks for God's blessings. Through Y.I. Club newsletters, activities and web pages including the Y.I. Activity Center, your child learns the value of saving, spending and sharing money—while empowering ministry through LCEF. It only takes \$25 to get started. Learn more at [lcef.org](http://lcef.org) or by calling 800-843-5233.

## ELECTRONIC GIVING

Looking for an easy way to make your donations? Stop by and pick up an electronic donation form in the brochure rack and have your donations automatically deducted from your bank account — at no cost to you or the church. Or you can fill out one of the envelopes in the back of the pews. You can make changes at any time!

## VOTER'S MEETING

Our next quarterly voter's meeting will be on March 18th at 9:45am. All members are encouraged to attend!

## KINDERGARTEN & PRESCHOOL NEWS



February was a very busy month as registration for the upcoming 2018-2019 School Year was held.

Summer Camp & Art Program schedules were handed out during registration & will be available on the website the first week of April, so watch your email for all the details!

Our Classroom Moms are finalizing plans for our 3rd Annual Jog-a-Thon on the 22nd & 23rd. Let's get ready to cheer our children on! Stay tuned for all the details on our website & via email.

Until next time.....

- Miss Dee

**Get ready....Get set...**  
**It's our Third Annual**



**March 22nd & 23rd**

- **Online Donating Available:** <https://pledgestar.com/redeemerbythesea/>
- **Sponsorship Opportunities**—contact Tisha Klingensmith prior to 3/9 at [tisha.klingensmith@yahoo.com](mailto:tisha.klingensmith@yahoo.com)
- **Corporate Matching Available**
- **Check out our website for full details at [www.redeemerp.com](http://www.redeemerp.com) & click on the Jog-A-Thon link**
- **Thank you in advance for supporting our kids!**



# 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](http://RedeemerbytheSea.org) for a complete listing and information concerning our Growth Groups.*

## BIRTHDAY GROUP

FRIDAY, February 16 at 11:30 a.m. at Hunter Steak House was the celebration for the birthdays of Rachelle Iadicco, Buck Lehmann and Evonne Salyer. After the bright sunny day, the interior seemed a little dark at first, but our eyes adjusted and the fellowship brightened the room. Somehow or other, everyone had a bite (or two) of Buck's birthday dessert. We contributed one hundred eleven (\$111) dollars to aid California wildfire victims.

We gather again on THURSDAY, April 5 at 11:30 a.m. at the Shadowridge Country Club, 1980 Gateway Drive in Vista to celebrate the March birthdays of George Ann Barnes, Dave Berrier, Louise Dockerty, Di Haarmeyer and Gayle Timken. Lunches range from fifteen (\$15) to twenty (\$20) dollars.

In addition to your lunch, we request a one dollar per celebrant contribution which will go to Solutions for Change. This group provides housing and

rehabilitation for homeless families. They require work and drug testing to participate in the program.

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

- Jo Voertman

## BRIDGE GROUP

February 23, 2018, was a sunny day and a perfect day to gather at the home of George Ann Barnes for dessert, coffee and 18 hands of bridge. Expectations were high that these hands would produce winning games and so the play began.

We welcomed Arlyn Schmad as a regular player and we insisted that she be rewarded high scorer for the day and she was! Second high score was earned by Marie Voien and someone must be low scorer so I accepted the lowly position.

This group meets once a month on the 4th Friday of each month with two exceptions, November play is on the 3rd Friday and December is dark as we prepare for Christmas Day and New Year's Day Celebrations.

If you are interested in bridge please be advised we will welcome you as a regular member or as a substitute. Contact me at 760-707-6677 or e-mail: [baconfaye3@gmail.com](mailto:baconfaye3@gmail.com).

- Faye Bacon

## MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Shawn Burkholder	Mar 1
Sandra Burger	Mar 1
Rich Sherwood	Mar 7
Di Haarmeyer	Mar 12
Rachel Fulton	Mar 13
Gayle Timken	Mar 15
George Ann Barnes	Mar 16
Matt Johnson	Mar 17
Louise Dockerty	Mar 18
Tammy Redl	Mar 19
Dave Berrier	Mar 20
Bonnie Elliott	Mar 20
Matt Batherson	Mar 20
Cynthia Boone	Mar 24
Laura Hanson-McFeaters	Mar 26
Joyce Faulstick	Mar 26



Cindy Um	Mar 26
Dave Sheive	Mar 27
Heather Ambrose	Mar 29
Doug Sandow	Mar 30

## MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

Dave & Stella Berrier	Mar 1
Darrell & Nancy Golnick	Mar 3
Ken & Kay Boland	Mar 12
Doug & Pam Sandow	Mar 13
Bryan & Sara Oliver	Mar 27



# GROWTH GROUPS, *CONT.*

## SALT & LIGHT

Is the current state of affairs (*school shootings...*) something no one saw coming? I think not; for example on March 23, 1987, American Family Association founder Don Wildmon addressed a gathering of U.S. church leaders in Chicago, speaking about the 'Church at a Crossroads: Competing Worldviews'; now 30 years later, his words provide a chilling reminder of what needs to be done.

In summary, Mr. Wildmon made two points; *first* as we all know - We are in a spiritual war, not just the U.S., but all Western civilization. The struggle is between the Christian worldview that we are created in the image of God who loved man so much that He gave His only Son to suffer and die for our sins. The other worldview has several names – secularism, materialism, humanism. Simply put, this worldview says that man is his own god, and no other god, if there is one, makes any difference. *Second* he sounded the alarm regarding what the church must do. *"It is my premise that the problems of our culture have come about largely because the church has refused to accept its responsibility to lead in areas where it has a right to lead and is expected to give leadership."*

Later he said *"The church must make a commitment, collectively and individually, to address the problem, pay the price, and fight the fight with the intent to win."*

*We must call our people to follow Christ and emulate His love of truth and righteousness and His intolerance of evil in their daily lives. We must encourage our people to become active in the political process – to run for office, to work for candidates, to vote."*

He ended by suggesting our efforts should begin immediately, calling the church to action, saying *"To delay will only bring more suffering, hurt, and brokenness."* ***This speech was delivered in 1987!***

There is a simple formula to address the above obligation.

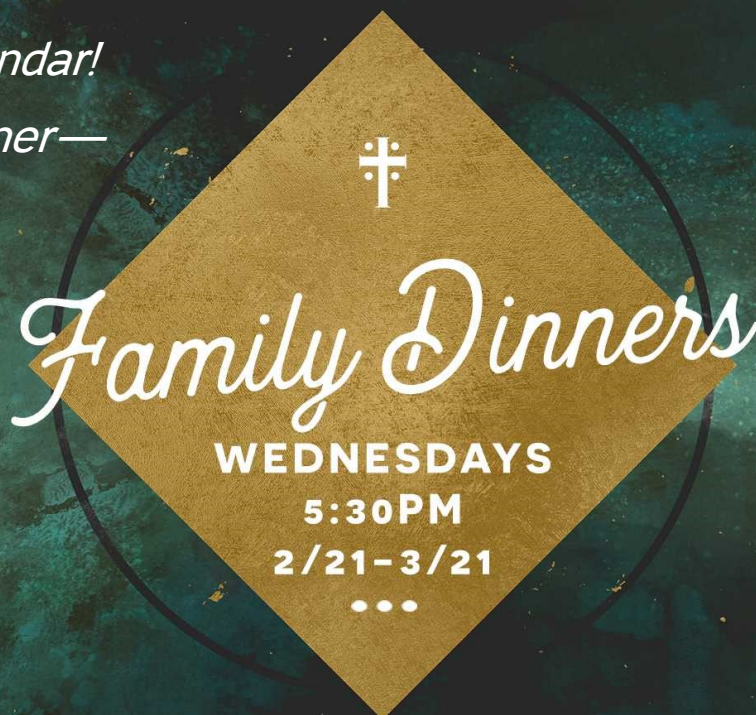
1. We need to remind our Members they have a duty to participate in the selection of our leaders by knowing the issues important to the church, knowing the candidates position on these issues and then voting.
2. Your Salt & Light group strives to support this by providing educational information on the issues important to the church, the roles of Church and State in the governance of America along with nonpartisan election information.

Exodus 18:21 *"But select capable men from all the people—men who fear God, trustworthy men who hate dishonest gain—and appoint them as officials over thousands, hundreds, fifties and tens."*

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

*Mark your Calendar!*  
*Don't make dinner—*  
*Join us!*



**March 7th**  
*Taco Night*  
*sponsored by the*  
*Church Council*

**March 14th**  
*TBD*

**March 21st**  
*Spaghetti Night*  
*sponsored by the*  
*Elders*



# GROWTH GROUPS, *CONT.*

## THE THEATER GROUP

If you love the Arts (Musical Theater, Plays, Music & Dance Performances & interesting get-togethers (tours, dinners & outreach projects), please join us! Church members and Guests are welcome to activities.

Spring Theatrical Event: 'Sense and Sensibility', a romantic love story.

A playful, new adaptation of Jane Austen's beloved novel that follows the lives of the Dashwood sisters as their lives are dramatically changed by the death of their father. Set in 18<sup>th</sup> - century England, this play is full of humor, emotional depth, and bold theatricality. It examines our reactions, both reasonable and ridiculous, to societal pressures. When reputation is everything, how do you follow your heart?

Where: Mira Costa College Theatre (Barnard Drive, Oceanside, CA 92056)

When: SUNDAY, April 29, 2018 @ 2 PM

Ticket Prices: \$13 senior/group tickets; general admission \$16

Early Registration Begins: SUNDAY, March 4, 2018. Registration sheets are found in church lobby. Call MaryAnn Meinardus 760-216-4922 or email [ma.meinardus@hotmail.com](mailto:ma.meinardus@hotmail.com) if interested.

Purchase (\$) Deadline: SUNDAY, March 11, 2018.

Pay before or by deadline via cash or check, written to Mary Ann Meinardus in person or mail check to 2061 Escenico Terrace, Carlsbad, CA 92009 before deadline. (Do NOT put in Sunday Collection Basket). I'll be placing the order and purchasing the tickets on Thursday, March 15, @ 1pm.

Part II: Theatrical Schedule to Follow:

June 10, 2018 @ 2pm 'The Father' – North Coast Rep. Theater, Solana Beach.

A sensation in Paris, London and New York, and honored with a war chest of awards including a Tony nomination for Best Play. Regularly \$53 senior/group \$36?

Registration/ticket deadline: TBA.

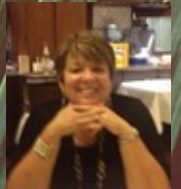
Story line: Andre, now 80 years old, was once a tap dancer who lives with his daughter Anne and her

husband Antoine. Or, was he an engineer whose daughter Anne lives in London with her new lover Pierre? The thing is, he is still wearing his pajamas, and he can't find his watch. He is starting to wonder if he's losing control.

July 22, 2018 @ 2pm 'Newsies' – Broadway Musical; Moonlight Amphitheater,

Vista. Senior Price \$40+. Registration/ticket deadline: TBA

Story-line: Based on the real-life Newsboy Strike of 1899, this adaptation of the Disney musical tells the story of Jack Kelly, a rebellious newsboy who dreams of a life as an artist away from the big city. After publishing giant Joseph Pulitzer raises newspaper prices at the newsboys' expense, Kelly and his fellow newsies take action. With help from the beautiful female reporter Katherine Plumber, all of New York City soon recognizes the power of "the little man." The musical features many of the beloved songs from the Disney movie while introducing eight new songs.



- Mary Ann Meinardus

## GRIEF GROUP

Our next meeting is on March 15, 1:30 P.M. at my home. We are going to repeat the book "Grieving with Hope" in order to accommodate the newer attendees. "Graduate" attendees are welcome to join us anytime. Contact Norma at 760-931-1947 for more information.

- Norma Russell

## STUDY ON GALATIANS

Galatians is one of the Apostle Paul's earliest letters, addressed to a group of churches that he founded on his first missionary journey (Acts 13-14). Because of Paul's missionary work, there was an influx of new Gentile believers. This left the Jewish believers in Jerusalem wondering both what to do with the new converts and how to treat the Apostle's message. Answering both questions is the main purpose of Paul's writing, and in the process, he has encouraged generations of Christians in the bedrock of our faith. Join Pastor Augie for this verse by verse study through the book of Galatians on Thursday mornings at 8:30am in the Lounge. Each week we will meet until about 9:45, and spend time in the Word as well as prayer.

- Pastor Augie



# GROWTH GROUPS, *CONT.*

## SUNDAY ADULT BIBLE CLASS

Our thanks and prayers to our Lord Jesus for giving us Don Howard who led our Sunday Morning Bible class in a study of THE GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT. He is recovering from surgery to repair a broken hip that resulted from an accidental fall. All of our prayers ascend to the "Throne of Grace" for Don's recovery and return to continue that beautiful study in God's inspired Word, the Bible.

This month of March the Sunday morning Adult Bible Class held from 9:45 to 10:45 AM will begin a new series of studies moderated by Rev. Roy Faulstick titled:

### ALLEGED CONTRADICTIONS IN THE BIBLE.

The obvious question: Why would a Church Bible study deal with ALLEGED CONTRADICTIONS IN THE BIBLE? Our Church confesses that the "Holy Scriptures differ from all other books in the world in that they are the Word of God...that it goes without saying that they contain no errors or contradictions, but that they are in all their parts the infallible truth.." (The Brief Statement of the Doctrinal Position of the Missouri Synod) Regardless of whether a person agrees with our belief everyone agrees that the Bible remains to this day the most widely translated and distributed written document in world history. The three major world religions Judaism, Christianity and Islam derive many of their teachings from parts of the Bible. A recently completed museum displaying a vast collection of Bible manuscripts now graces our Nation's Capital! Since the Holy Scriptures have throughout the ages been entrusted to the Church, it is incumbent upon the Church to study and proclaim its truth.

The Bible in one volume containing sixty-six books written by authors separated from one another by thousands of years. These authors never contradict each other! From beginning to end, Genesis to Revelation, Moses to St John, the Bible declares itself to be inspired by the Holy Spirit and thus the very Word of God that reveals the Word of God in human flesh and blood! Every person who actually reads and studies the Bible is confronted with many SEEMING contradictions. Many see them as irreconcilable CONTRADICTIONS that make the entire

Bible an unreliable authority for what we can believe about God. The Holy Scriptures throughout history have been entrusted to the chosen people of God, the Church. The mission of the Church is to proclaim the Good News of God's word in opposition to all error. The ALLEGED contradictions that appear in the Scriptures are in most cases intentional paradox that enable the Church to proclaim the divine wisdom of God. Consider just a few paradox (alleged contradictions): God hates sin – God loves sinners! Jesus is a man – Jesus is God! Wise are fools - fools are wise! Poor are rich – rich are poor! Get a cup of coffee and join in a topic that is sure to stimulate discussion and a better understanding of the Bible.

- Pastor Roy Faulstick

## CHOIR

The Chancel Choir can't wait to move into our new raised Choir Loft. Construction has been happening for the past two months as our choir sings from the north pew in the Sanctuary. We love the new colors of the carpet and the extension of the Praise Band space, and can't wait for the steps to be built to house our Chancel Choir. Stay tuned as the new space evolves.

We are currently working on anthems for Palm Sunday and Easter, and it's not too late to join us on Wednesday nights in March as we rehearse for the Easter Season. We rehearse after the Lenten Suppers and the 6:30 Lenten Services. Choir rehearsal will start at 7:00pm in the Sanctuary. You are welcome to join us.

The RBTS Music Concert Committee will host an instrumental concert on Sunday, March 18, from 4:00-5:00pm in the Sanctuary. The students of Ronel Wishnuff will perform famous pieces on piano, violin, cello, with solos, duets, and trios. Come and hear accomplished musicians ranging from ages 5-17. These students are from our own North County and represent talented musicians of the future. This is a unique opportunity to enjoy beautiful music and support our future musicians of San Diego County. There is no cost, but a free-will offering will be available sponsoring the San Diego Suzuki Music Association of California, San Diego Branch. You can make a donation by writing your donation checks to SMAC-SDB.

Please join us on March 18 for this exciting concert.

In His Service, .

- Gary Wilson



# LUTHERAN WOMEN IN MISSION



Tuesday

March 13th at 9:30am

Fellowship Hall

9:30am - Short LWML meeting

10:10am - Presentation—Everyone is invited to hear the program.



"1 Potato, 2 Potato,  
3 Potato more..."

Our Own Luann Goedert will be demonstrating a variety of potato recipes



## EASTER CELEBRATION HELPERS NEEDED!!!

No, April 1st is not only April Fool's Day... IT IS EASTER AND IT IS TIME TO CELEBRATE!!!!

An Easter Celebration will be held on the patio after each service.

Helpers are needed to assist in the final prep and serving before and after each service.

Specific directions will be provided to make it very easy.

The sign up will be in the lobby or on the connection card following the March 13th Women's Ministry Meeting.

Any questions contact: BJ Campbell-Lahr [bjclahr@cox.net](mailto:bjclahr@cox.net) or 1-760-945-3750

- Mary Ann Meinardus

## EASTER LILIES

All praises to Christ our King! As we look forward to celebrating Christ's resurrection, it is time to start planning for the day. Again, we will be ordering Easter lilies to decorate our church.

The cost is \$8.00 each. If you wish to donate money to fund this part of the celebration, make your check payable to Redeemer by the Sea and note that it is for Easter lilies. After the last Easter service, you may pick up your lily. Thank you in advance for your participation!

- Di Haarmeyer

## SAVE AND RECYCLE

Ink/Toner Cartridges – at the office to purchase supplies

Amazon Smile: When you make purchases on amazon.com, go to [amazonsmile.com](https://www.amazon.com/amazonsmile). Login normally and choose Redeemer by the Sea Lutheran Church



as your charity! They then send us a check! Our last quarterly check for Oct-Dec 2017 on February 15th was for \$23.15.

Box Tops for Education – in the box in the lobby for the K & Preschool



Cans & Bottles (CRV) – by the trash containers in the parking lot to support the art program at the Kindergarten & Preschool

Grocery Coupons—drop off your clipped coupons at the Ladies' Table — they are sent to military bases overseas



# PARENTING CHRISTIAN KIDS: PRAY WITHOUT CEASING

*“Pray in the Spirit at all times and on every occasion. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all believers everywhere.” —Ephesians 6:18, NLT*

As children’s communication skills develop and grow, so does their ability to pray. Toddlers begin to understand that Jesus is their friend, so pray to him in simple language that relates to children’s daily lives. Preschoolers become more aware of the world around them, so remind children this age that Jesus cares about everything that happens to them and to other people. By ages 7 to 9, most kids feel a need for God’s help and strength—and are able to verbally express their thoughts and desires. Look up Bible verses about prayer together. Preteens begin to focus on relationships, so remind them of their value to God and of the fact that no prayers are insignificant or unworthy.

**Lord’s Prayer Ribbon** For every family member, you’ll need 4-inch ribbon strands in the colors below. Read aloud Matthew 6:9-13. Say:

“Blue is the color of fathers.  
(Hold your blue ribbon.) Our father in heaven.”

“White is for holiness. (Tie white to blue.) Holy is your name.”

“Purple is majestic. (Tie purple to white.) Your Kingdom come, your will be done.”

“Green is the color of the earth.  
(Tie green to purple.) On earth as it is in heaven.”

“Yellow reminds us of wheat.  
(Tie yellow to green.) Give us this day our daily bread.”

“Red reminds us of Jesus’ blood and forgiveness. (Tie red to yellow.) And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.”

“Orange is for the darkness of evil. (Tie orange to red.) And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from evil.”

“Gold reminds us of heaven. (Tie gold to orange.) For yours is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.”

**Now I Lay Me Down to Sleep** Give children each a white pillowcase and a fabric pen. Say: “This week at bedtime, let’s pray for a different person each night.”

Help kids each write a new name on their pillowcase nightly after they pray for that person.

**Pop Up Prayers** Create a prayer reminder using an empty 20-ounce bottle, plastic

disposable plates, a permanent marker, glitter, corn syrup, and water. Cut six half-inch ovals from the plates. Write Family, Neighbors, Church, Our Government, World Problem, and Peace on the ovals, one per oval. Put the ovals and some glitter in the bottle. Fill it three-fourths full of corn syrup; top with water. Tighten the lid. Each day, shake the bottle and pray for what comes up first.

**Anywhere Prayers** Read aloud Jonah 2:1 and find unique places to pray as a family. Let each person find a spot (closet, car, treehouse, swing set). Then gather in those places for prayer, thanking God for always loving and listening to us—no matter where we are.

**Spin the Prayer Bottle** In this redemptive version of the game, the person spinning prays for whoever the bottle points to. After receiving prayer, that person spins the bottle and prays for the next person it points to. You also can play Spin the Prayer Person, where each player gets a turn being spun in a swivel chair!

## ASK GOD:

1. To remind your family members to converse with him regularly.
2. To show your children that prayer involves more than just asking God for stuff.
3. To help you include listening to God as part of your prayer time.



## TEACHABLE MOMENTS

### Prayers of Praise

You’ll need a Bible, matches, a pillar candle, and small, individual candles with paper collars. In a darkened room, gather around a table that contains the pillar candle. Light it and say: **In Old Testament times, people prayed to God by giving him burnt offerings and sacrifices.**

Read aloud Hebrews 13:15. Say: **Now, instead of giving animals or grain to God, our sacrifices are our praises. God wants us to praise him by telling about the wonderful things he has done.**

Read aloud Psalm 66:1-5. Pick up a small candle, light it from the pillar candle, and complete this prayer: **God, I praise you for \_\_\_\_\_. Invite others to take candles and do the same.**

Say: **The Bible describes God’s glory as shining.** Read aloud Luke 2:9. Say: **This room is glowing because we’ve praised God through our prayers.**

Say amen and extinguish the candles.



# STEWARDSHIP

“Hudson Taylor, a Nineteenth Century British missionary to China, is reported to have said, “God’s work, done in God’s way, will not lack God’s supply.” To know God’s way, we need to know His Holy Word. Or to say it another way: you need to know your Bible.

St. Paul, before he spends two chapters on giving, wrote that every thought is to be taken captive to the obedience of Christ (2 Cor. 10:5).

Doctrine matters. And doctrine matters because the Scriptures matter. And the Scriptures matter because this is where we learn the teaching of Christ. Our thoughts must be brought into line with the teaching of Scripture so that our work is what God wants done and so that we do this work in His way.

A good tree bears good fruit. A bad tree bears bad fruit. We have been made good trees in holy baptism. We are fertilized and pruned for bearing good fruit by constantly hearing God’s Word preached and taught in sermon and Bible Class and in receiving the life-giving, faith-sustaining food of the Lord’s Supper. Remember your doctrine, hold on to the Lord’s teaching, and your thoughts will be taken captive to the obedience of Christ. Bringing every thought captive to the obedience of Christ is recognizing that God does provide. The Lord’s Prayer teaches us to pray for daily bread. Praying this day in and day out reminds us that the Lord is the giver of our daily bread, and that we are to give thanks for His daily provision of it.

Thank you to everyone who turned in their commitment card. If you did not get a chance to do so in February, there are extras in the lobby. Your commitment will show up on your giving statement and can be modified at any time.

God is rarely early and never late in His work, as Abraham learned, “on the mount of the Lord it will be provided” (Gen. 22:14). The Lord’s generosity forms our generosity in return. Thus, we set aside for the work of God a generous, first-fruits, proportion of the daily bread that

God has given to us. This act of trust in the Lord’s provision is the working out of our faith in Him.

When budgetary discussions pop up, our natural reaction is to point fingers. But remember your doctrine, and what your mother taught about pointing fingers. Our first natural reaction is not always right. In fact, when our thoughts are brought into captivity of Christ, our first reaction should be repentance.

It should raise questions in our own lives. As good trees in Christ who are to bear good fruit, we should ask whether our thoughts are taken captive by obedience to Christ. Have we given generously? Have we given our first-fruits? You know. And God knows. “For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show Himself strong on behalf of those whose heart is loyal to Him” (2 Chron. 16:9).

God will provide. He always has and He always will. He gives His meat in due season. He has not left you as orphans, but has grafted you into His own family. You belong to Him. Remember this, letting this thought dwell in you richly. And you will then be rich toward others.

## 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.

### SPECIAL SATURDAY 101 CLASS!

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 is Saturday, March 10th at 10am.*

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 3/11*

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 4/15*

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!



# LENT SERIES'

Lent is a time of reflection and repentance before the celebration of Easter. For centuries, Christians have recalled the significance of Jesus' crucifixion on Good Friday and his subsequent resurrection from the grave on Easter Sunday. Join us

for these two special series' on Sundays and Wednesdays as we take these 40 days and remember Christ's sacrifice for us.

## JESUS THE FINAL DAYS

**Sundays**  
during Lent

The country star Tim McGraw once encouraged his fans in a song to "Live Like You Were Dying." Too often, we trudge through life paying little to no attention to the sobering reality that our time here is not eternal. Our days have an end. In His final week, Jesus was fully aware that his days on earth were coming to an end. How He spends and celebrates His final days can give us keen insight into how we would spend and celebrate every day.

### **Jesus: The Final Days**

2/11 Celebrate Good Times

3/4 Famous Last Words

3/11 Truth Be Told

3/18 One Last Chance

3/25 Palm Sunday: Back to the Future

## CHRIST ON TRIAL

**Wednesdays**  
during  
Lent



Christ most certainly IS on trial. His saving act, His being in the world, His radical teachings all demand a reaction. Every human heart must wrestle with questions like: Who is this Christ? Is He who He claims to be? If so, what does He mean for me and my living? Christ demands a reply. Daily, Christ is on trial; as He is again this Lent, Holy Week and Easter. Christ On Trial is a series of worship services in which court is in session to determine who Christ is. See what these eye witnesses have to share about their encounters with Jesus.

### **Christ on Trial**

2/21 Matthew

2/28 A Woman Healed

3/7 Nicodemus

3/14 An Adulterous Woman

3/21 John

3/29 *Maundy Thursday*: Simon Peter

3/30 *Good Friday*: Closing Arguments



# STONES CRY OUT..., *CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1*

reminding herself and all of us where our only hope lies – in Jesus, our Lord, and His saving work on the cross.

As we round the corner into March, soon it will be Palm Sunday. And my mom's predicament reminds me of something Jesus said when He entered Jerusalem that first Palm Sunday, as crowds were gathered to celebrate the Passover. People were shouting and singing joyfully "Hosanna" – which means "save us!"

They couldn't help it. Their deepest need, and their greatest joy, was welling up in a song of hope! But there were some religious leaders who heard this shouting and they reprimanded Jesus saying, "*Teacher, rebuke your disciples!*" (Luke 19:39). To which Jesus answered, "*I tell you, ... if they keep quiet, the stones will cry out.*" (Luke 19:40).

**Jesus says that even those with the inability to speak ... would praise Jesus anyway!** My mom can't speak, but she is crying out to Jesus anyway – in both her need, and also in thanksgiving and joy, trusting Him to graciously provide for her as He has always done.

So often we feel as though we can only proclaim Jesus when things are going well. And in some ways, that's what the Palm Sunday crowd did. They praised Him for all the miracles they had seen Him do. They cried out to Him when they were hopeful that He would show His power and might in the ways they wanted Him to do. But as the prospects turned grim and the horizon turned dark, they one by one fled. And instead of crying out to Jesus, they only cried.

And yet, the stones did cry out in their place as it were. There was a great earthquake as Jesus was crucified. **The earth shook and the rocks split** (Matthew 27:51).

Even the tombs broke open, and the dead were raised to life! (Matthew 27:52). And then after



three days, the stones cried out again as Jesus rose from the dead! There was a **violent earthquake** and an angel of the Lord **rolled back the stone** that covered Jesus' tomb (Matthew 28:2). Even when the outlook was bleak ... even those things that couldn't speak ... found a way to cry out praise to the Lord!

There are many times when I find that I keep my mouth – my very able-bodied mouth – shut, when I should be crying out to God. I keep my mouth shut when I should be crying out "Save us, dear Jesus!" I keep my mouth shut when I should be singing "Great are you Lord!" I keep my mouth shut when I should be shouting "Repent, for the Kingdom of Heaven is near!" Oh that you and I would cry out with our very capable voices while we are able to speak.

*Listen! Your watchmen lift up their voices; together they shout for joy.*

*When the Lord returns to Zion, they will see it with their own eyes. – Isaiah 52:8*

Perhaps this Holy Week and Easter, which is only a few weeks away, would be a good time for you to speak up and witness to the Lord with your friends and family. They too have much to be thankful for, and many needs to bring to God. They too have mouths which were created to cry out to God. Perhaps use this Newsletter as a tool with which to shout for Joy and sing God's praises?

Joyfully proclaiming Jesus with you!  
Pastor Augie

